FastAPI Parameters & Request Body – Full Deep Dive

FastAPI makes parameter handling intuitive, type-safe, and well-documented. Let's break down everything!

1. Path & Query Parameters

Path Parameters

Defined in the URL path like /items/{item_id}.

```
@app.get("/items/{item_id}")
def read_item(item_id: int):
    return {"item_id": item_id}
```

- item_id is mandatory
- Automatically converted to int

Query Parameters

Passed via the URL like /items?name=phone.

```
@app.get("/items/")
def read_item(name: str, price: float = 0.0):
    return {"name": name, "price": price}
```

- Optional if default value is provided
- FastAPI infers types and validates them

2. Request Body

Used to send JSON, Form data, etc.

Example with Pydantic Model:

```
from pydantic import BaseModel

class Item(BaseModel):
   name: str
   price: float
   in_stock: bool
```

```
@app.post("/items/")
def create_item(item: Item):
    return {"received": item}
```

Sends JSON like:

```
{
    "name": "Phone",
    "price": 299.99,
    "in_stock": true
}
```

Automatic validation + documentation

3. Parameter Metadata

Use Query(), Path(), and Body() to add validation and metadata.

```
from fastapi import Query, Path

@app.get("/products/{product_id}")
def get_product(
    product_id: int = Path(..., title="The ID of the product", gt=0),
    name: str = Query(None, max_length=50)
):
    return {"product_id": product_id, "name": name}
```

A Common metadata options:

- title: Adds a title in Swagger UI
- description: Tooltip in docs
- alias: Alternate key
- deprecated=True: Warns in docs
- example: Shown as input sample

♦ 4. Validators

Validation happens automatically via:

- Type hints (str, int)
- Pydantic models
- Query, Path, Body metadata

You can also **custom validate** inside models:

```
from pydantic import BaseModel, validator

class Product(BaseModel):
    name: str
    price: float

@validator("price")
    def price_positive(cls, value):
        if value <= 0:
            raise ValueError("Price must be positive")
        return value</pre>
```

♦ 5. Multiple Values □

Query parameters can accept multiple values (like a list):

```
from typing import List

@app.get("/search/")
def search_items(tags: List[str] = Query([])):
    return {"tags": tags}
```

Accessed via /search?tags=tech&tags=fastapi

♦ 6. Number Validators [34]

Use built-in constraints for validation:

```
@app.get("/range/")
def get_range(
    num: int = Query(..., gt=10, lt=100)
):
    return {"num": num}
```

34 Available:

- gt / ge: Greater than / Greater or equal
- 1t / 1e: Less than / Less or equal
- multiple_of: Must be divisible

7. Complex Subtypes

Nested models, deeply structured request bodies:

```
class Features(BaseModel):
    size: str
    color: str

class Product(BaseModel):
    name: str
    price: float
    features: Features

@app.post("/products/")
def create_product(product: Product):
    return {"product": product}
```

✓ Swagger UI automatically nests the structure.

☑ Bonus: Mixing All Three – Path, Query, and Body

```
@app.put("/products/{product_id}")
def update_product(
    product_id: int = Path(...),
    available: bool = Query(...),
    product: Product = Body(...)
):
    return {
        "id": product_id,
        "available": available,
        "details": product
    }
}
```

Summary Table

Feature	Example	Tool Used
Path Param	/items/{id}	Path()
Query Param	/items?name=x	Query()
Request Body	JSON payload	Body(), Model
Metadata	Titles, defaults, constraints	Path(), Query()
List Values	/tags?tag=x&tag=y	List[str]
Validators	price > 0, name length, etc.	Pydantic, Query()
Number Constraints	gt, lt, multiple_of	Query(), Path()
Nested Structures	Models inside Models	Pydantic



- Use Optional[] or default None to make parameters optional.
- Use Body (embed=True) if you want request body as a single object like: { "item": { ... } }
- Use Enum for fixed choices in query/path params.
- Use response_model=YourModel to enforce response types.



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