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Express Project Structure

One of the good things about Express is that it is a very configurable framework. It won't enforce a certain way to do things. This is useful because it allows you to customize almost anything.

However, this ability to configure and customize might be daunting to first-timers because they don't know what is the best practice. Let me show you the best practice for organizing the files, i.e., the recommended Express project structure.

Structure

- `app.js`: main file, houses the embedded server and application logic
- `/public`: contains static files to be served by the embedded server
- `/routes`: houses custom routing for the REST API servers (not needed for a web app)
- `/routes/users.js`: endpoint/routes for resources such as users
- `/views`: contains templates that can be processed by a template engine (not needed for REST APIs)
- `/package.json`: project manifest
- `/www`: boot up script folder

Note: a web app is a traditional web application (thick server) with 100% server-side rendering while a REST API is a data only server (rendering happens and UI is hosted on the clients)

