

Symfony 6 JSON Web Token(JWT) Authentication

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Hi! Today we will learn how to create an authentication on our Symfony 6 API. But before that let's have a discussion about API and what is JSON Web Token(JWT).

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API stands for Application Program Interface, API is an interface that allows applications to exchange data. To make it more clear, APIs are a set of functions that can be used by programmers to build software and applications.

JWT stands for JSON Web Token, it is an open standard (RFC 7519) that defines a compact and self-contained way for securely transmitting information between parties as a JSON object. JWT is commonly used for Authorization, Information Exchange and etc.

Now that we have a glimpse of the idea on the topic, We will now proceed on building the app.

Prerequisite:

- [Composer](#)
- [Symfony CLI](#)
- MySQL
- PHP >= 8.0.2



Step 1: Install Symfony 6

First, select a folder that you want Symfony to be installed then execute this command on Terminal or CMD to install:

Install via composer:

```
1 | composer create-project symfony/skeleton sy
```

Install via Symfony CLI:

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Step 2: Install Packages

After installing Symfony, we must install the necessary packages to our app. During the installation of the packages, it will ask you to execute the recipes, type **y** to confirm.

```
1 composer require jms/serializer-bundle
2 composer require friendsofsymfony/rest-bundle
3 composer require symfony/maker-bundle
4 composer require symfony/orm-pack
5 composer require lexik/jwt-authentication-bundle
```

Step 3: Set Database Configuration

After installing, open the **.env** file and set the database configuration. We will be using MySQL in this tutorial.

Uncomment the DATABASE_URL variable for MySQL and updates its configs. Make sure you commented out the other DATABASE_URL variables.

.env

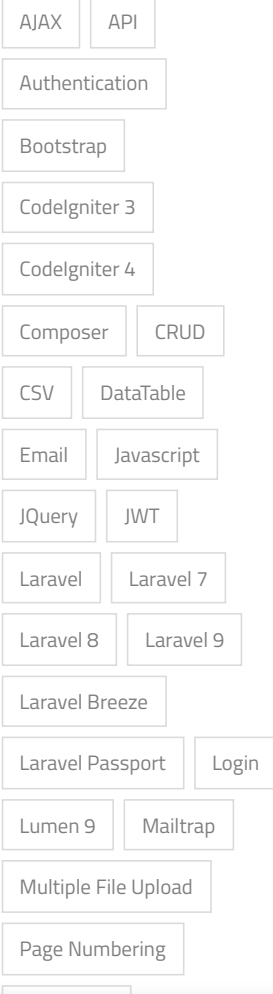
```
1 # In all environments, the following file:
2 # the latter taking precedence over the former
3 #
4 # * .env contains default
5 # * .env.local uncommitted file
6 # * .env.$APP_ENV committed environment file
7 # * .env.$APP_ENV.local uncommitted environment file
8 #
9 # Real environment variables win over .env
10 #
11 # DO NOT DEFINE PRODUCTION SECRETS IN THIS FILE
12 #
13 # Run "composer dump-env prod" to compile
14 # https://symfony.com/doc/current/best_practices.html#using-the-environment-variables
15
16 ###> symfony/framework-bundle ###
17 APP_ENV=dev
18 APP_SECRET=e0710317861221371d185cc932acd1!
19 ###< symfony/framework-bundle ###
20
21 ###> doctrine/doctrine-bundle ###
22 # Format described at https://www.doctrine-project.org/en/latest/reference/configuration.html#configuration
23 # IMPORTANT: You MUST configure your service to be able to use these variables (e.g. DoctrineBundle::enableAnnotations())
24 #
25 # DATABASE_URL="sqlite:///%kernel.project_dir%/data/database.db"
26 # DATABASE_URL="mysql://db_user:db_password@localhost:3306/db_name"
27 # DATABASE_URL="postgresql://db_user:db_password@localhost:5432/db_name"
28 ###< doctrine/doctrine-bundle ###
```

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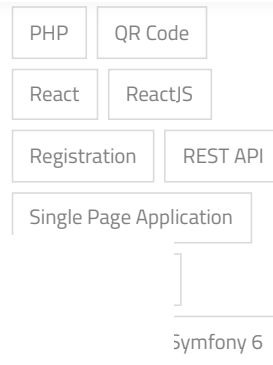
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After configuring the database, execute this command to create the database:

```
1 | php bin/console doctrine:database:create
```



Step 4: Configure FOSRest Bundle

Open the file `config/packages/fos_rest.yaml` and add these line:

`config/packages/fos_rest.yaml`

```
1 | fos_rest:
2 |   format_listener:
3 |     rules:
4 |       - { path: ^/api, prefer_extens:
```

Step 5: Create User Class

We will then create a user class, by using the **`make:user`** command – this command will create a User class for security and it will automatically update the **`security.yaml`**.

Follow these steps:

```
1 | php bin/console make:user
2 |
3 | The name of the security user class (e.g
4 | >
5 |
6 | Do you want to store user data in the da
7 | >
8 |
9 | Enter a property name that will be the ui
10 | >
11 |
12 | Will this app need to hash/check user pa:
```



```

17 created: src/Entity/User.php
18 created: src/Repository/UserRepository.php
19 updated: src/Entity/User.php
20 updated: config/packages/security.yaml
21
22
23 Success!
24
25
26 Next Steps:
27 - Review your new App\Entity\User class
28 - Use make:entity to add more fields to
29 - Create a way to authenticate! See ht

```



Before we do the migration, let's add a new field named

username. Update the file **src\Entity\User.php**,

src\Entity\User.php

```

1  <?php
2
3  namespace App\Entity;
4
5  use App\Repository\UserRepository;
6  use Doctrine\ORM\Mapping as ORM;
7  use Symfony\Component\Security\Core\User\UserInterface;
8  use Symfony\Component\Security\Core\User\PasswordAuthenticatedUserInterface;
9
10 #[ORM\Entity(repositoryClass: UserRepository::class)]
11 class User implements UserInterface, PasswordAuthenticatedUserInterface
12 {
13     #[ORM\Id]
14     #[ORM\GeneratedValue]
15     #[ORM\Column(type: 'integer')]
16     private $id;
17
18     #[ORM\Column(type: 'string', length: 180)]
19     private $email;
20
21     #[ORM\Column(type: 'string', length: 180)]
22     private $username;
23
24     #[ORM\Column(type: 'json')]
25     private $roles = [];
26
27     #[ORM\Column(type: 'string')]
28     private $password;

```

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```
33     {
34         return $this->id;
35     }
36
37     public function getEmail(): ?string
38     {
39         return $this->email;
40     }
41
42     public function setEmail(string $email): self
43     {
44         $this->email = $email;
45
46         return $this;
47     }
48
49     public function getUsername(): string
50     {
51         return (string) $this->username;
52     }
53
54     public function setUsername(string $username): self
55     {
56         $this->username = $username;
57
58         return $this;
59     }
60
61     /**
62      * A visual identifier that represents this user.
63      *
64      * @see UserInterface
65      */
66     public function getUserIdentifier(): string
67     {
68         return (string) $this->email;
69     }
70
71     /**
72      * @see UserInterface
73      */
74     public function getRoles(): array
75     {
76         $roles = $this->roles;
77         // guarantee every user at least has ROLE_USER
78         $roles[] = 'ROLE_USER';
79
80         return array_unique($roles);
81     }
82
83     public function setRoles(array $roles): self
84     {
85         $this->roles = $roles;
86
87         return $this;
88     }
89
90     /**
91      * @see PasswordAuthenticatedUserInterface
92      */
93     public function getPassword(): string
```

```

98     public function setPassword(string $password)
99     {
100         $this->password = $password;
101
102         return $this;
103     }
104
105     /**
106      * @see UserInterface
107      */
108     public function eraseCredentials()
109     {
110         // If you store any temporary, sensitive data here, clear it
111         // $this->plainPassword = null;
112     }
113
114
115 }

```

Step 6: Create Migration

Then we will create a migration file and then migrate it:

Execute this command to create a migration file:

```
1 | php bin/console make:migration
```

Then execute this command to run the migration the file:

```
1 | php bin/console doctrine:migrations:migrate
```

Step 7: Configure JWT Bundle

We will create first the public and private keys. Execute this to generate SSL keys:

```
1 | php bin/console lexik:jwt:generate-keypair
```

If you encounter an error while executing the command above, you can follow the command below, the command will ask for the passphrase, the passphrase must match the value on **.env [JWT_PASSPHRASE]**.

```
1 | mkdir config/jwt
```

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And then we will update **config/routes.yaml** file:

```
1 | api_login_check:
2 |     path: /api/login_check
```

Step 8: Create Controllers

Let's create a registration controller to add users. Execute this command to create a controller:

```
1 | php bin\console make:controller RegistrationController
```

And add these line of codes:

src/Controller/RegistrationController.php

```
1 | <?php
2 |
3 | namespace App\Controller;
4 |
5 | use Symfony\Bundle\FrameworkBundle\Controller\AbstractController;
6 | use Symfony\Component\HttpFoundation\Response;
7 | use Symfony\Component\Routing\Annotation\Route;
8 | use Symfony\Component\HttpFoundation\Request;
9 | use Symfony\Component\PasswordHasher\Hasher\UserPasswordHasher;
10 | use Doctrine\Persistence\ManagerRegistry;
11 | use App\Entity\User;
12 |
13 | /**
14 |  * @Route("/api", name="api_")
15 |  */
16 |
17 | class RegistrationController extends AbstractController
18 | {
19 |     /**
20 |      * @Route("/register", name="register")
21 |      */
22 |     public function index(ManagerRegistry $doctrine, Request $request)
23 |     {
24 |
25 |         $em = $doctrine->getManager();
26 |         $decoded = json_decode($request->getContent());
27 |         $email = $decoded->email;
28 |         $plaintextPassword = $decoded->password;
29 |
30 |         $user = new User();
31 |         $hashedPassword = $passwordHasher->hashPassword(
32 |             $user,
33 |             $plaintextPassword
34 |         );
35 |         $user->setPassword($hashedPassword);
36 |         $user->setEmail($email);
```

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```
41 |         return $this->json(['message' =>
42 |             ]
43 |         );
    }
```

We then create a Dashboard Controller to test our JWT authentication.

```
1 | php bin/console make:controller DashboardCo
```

Open the file **src/Controller/DashboardController.php** and add an **/api** route:

src/Controller/DashboardController.php

```
1 | <?php
2 |
3 | namespace App\Controller;
4 |
5 | use Symfony\Bundle\FrameworkBundle\Controller;
6 | use Symfony\Component\HttpFoundation\Response;
7 | use Symfony\Component\Routing\Annotation\Route;
8 |
9 | /**
10 |  * @Route("/api", name="api_")
11 |  */
12 |
13 | class DashboardController extends AbstractController
14 | {
15 |     /**
16 |      * @Route("/dashboard", name="dashboard")
17 |      */
18 |     public function index(): Response
19 |     {
20 |         return $this->json([
21 |             'message' => 'Welcome to your dashboard',
22 |             'path' => 'src/Controller/DashboardController.php'
23 |         ]);
24 |     }
25 | }
```

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And lastly, we must configure the file

config/packages/security.yaml to make the JWT authentication work.

config/packages/security.yaml

```

1  security:
2      enable_authenticator_manager: true
3      password_hashers:
4          App\Entity\User: 'auto'
5          Symfony\Component\Security\Core\User:
6              algorithm: 'auto'
7              cost: 15
8      providers:
9          app_user_provider:
10             entity:
11                 class: App\Entity\User
12                 property: username
13     firewalls:
14         login:
15             pattern: ^/api/login
16             stateless: true
17             json_login:
18                 check_path: /api/login_check
19                 success_handler: lexik_jwt_authentication.handler.success
20                 failure_handler: lexik_jwt_authentication.handler.authentication_failure
21
22         api:
23             pattern: ^/api
24             stateless: true
25             jwt: ~
26         dev:
27             pattern: ^/(_(profiler|wdt)|c:
28             security: false
29     main:
30         lazy: true
31         provider: app_user_provider
32
33     access_control:
34         - { path: ^/api/register, roles: IS_AUTHENTICATED_FULLY }
35         - { path: ^/api/login, roles: PUBLIC }
36         - { path: ^/api, roles: IS_AUTHENTICATED_FULLY }

```

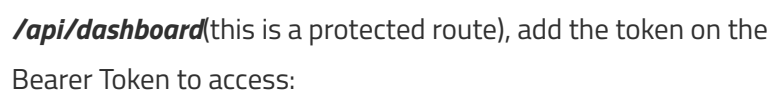
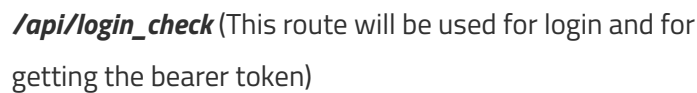
Step 10: Run the Application

After finishing the steps above, you can now run your application by executing the command below:

```
1 | symfony server:start
```

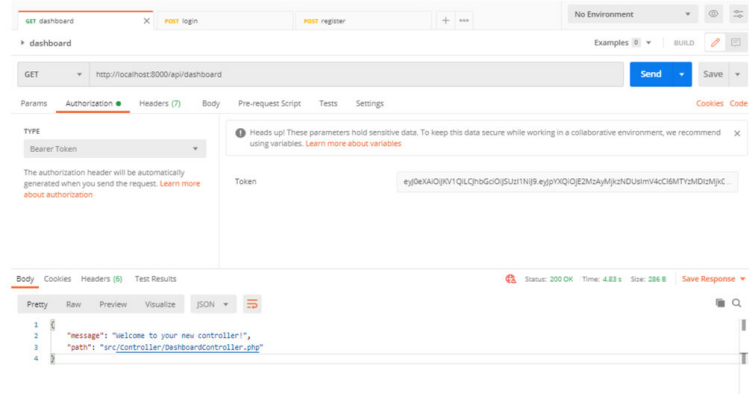
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/api/register (This route will be used for registering new users)



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