Full Stack JavaScript Developer

Glossary - Backend Development with Node.js



Access Modifier Used in classes to declare how a property or method can be accessed from the

application

Behavior Driven

Development

A development style built on Test Driven Development where the focus is user

interaction and stakeholders

Comparison Test A type of test that compares strings, numbers, objects, or arrays

Compile Convert code from one language to another language with a different level of

abstraction. Ex. Java to Machine Code.

Container A tool used to encapsulate the entirety of an application including runtime,

libraries, and files to run independently of global configurations on an operating

system

DELETE HTTP request that removes data from the server

dependencies Dependencies used in both development and production

devDependencies Dependencies that are only necessary for development

Duck typing A programming paradigm where if two or more structures (functions, interfaces,

objects) have the same properties, they can be used interchangeably regardless

of any type declarations

Endpoint An endpoint is the URL of the REST API with the method that gets, adds to, or

modifies the data of an API in some way

Enumerated type A set of constants that are automatically indexed and can be called by their name

or index

Explicit When type is declared by the developer

Generic A way to write a function that is reusable across different types.

GET HTTP request that retrieves data from the server

GraphQL A query language used for working with APIs



Idempotency When making multiple identical requests to the API produce the same results

each time

Implicit Typing When type is inferred by the compiler

Interface Used as a blueprint to declare the shape of something reuseable such as

functions, objects, and classes

Interpreted Language The language is read by a runtime and executed on the spot and errors are found

on execution

Libuv A library written in C that provides multithreading to Node.js and allows for heavy

processing

lodash A popular library for performing utility functions for things like arrays and

numbers

Microservice A piece of a larger application. In Microservice applications, the application is

broken down into encapsulated microservices that can be maintained individually

Middleware Functionality that runs between a request to the server and the response from

the server

Monolithic

Architecture

A unified architecture where there is no separation between services or

components of the application

Multithreaded

language

The ability of a language to run 2 or more concurrent tasks on what are known as threads. A CPU has 2 threads. If you are on an 8 core machine, you could run 16

A tool for managing project dependencies via command line as well as a website

concurrent tasks.

Node Package

Manager (npm) hosting more than 1 million third-party packages that can be used for your

project

Node Version

Manager (nvm)

A software package that allows a user to run a different version of Node.js for

each project on the same machine

Numerical Matchers

Test

A test of numerical values within a specified range of the expected value

package-lock.json A JSON file that contains all of the information for the dependencies of an app's

installed modules

package.json A JSON file that acts as a manifest for your project including name, author,

version, description, license, dependencies, scripts, etc.



PATCH HTTP request that updates data on the server

POST HTTP request that sends data to the server

Prettier A code formatting package that can be integrated into projects to improve code

consistency and readability

PUT HTTP request that replaces data on the server

Query parameter A key-value pair added to the end of a URL to supply data through the URL that

can be used by the application

REPL (Read, Evaluate,

Print, Loop)

An environment used for running programming languages

REST Representational State Transfer, a method for working with data

RESTful Term to describe an API that is implemented following REST principles. Often

used interchangeably with REST (e.g. REST/RESTful APIs).

Route The name or path used to access endpoints

Router Middleware that directs your application to different routes

Runtime The final phase in an application where the code is run

Runtime A runtime is an environment that is used to interpret and run a programming

language

Self-contained

application

The use of self-contained implies the application receives data from no external

sources

Spec An individual test

Stakeholder Any individual or group of individuals with an invested interest in something

Strong-Typed Types are important and require declarations. Steps need to be taken to change

variables to different types

Suite A group of related tests

Superset A language that extends or builds on top of another language or standard

Test-Driven

Development

A development style where tests are written before development



Transpile Convert a language to a similarly abstracted language. Ex. ES6 to ES5

Truthiness When a conditional proves to be truth-like such as the boolean **true** or a

condition being true, or a value not equal to 0, NaN, undefined, null, or empty.

Tuple A data type of an array with a set number of values where all value types are

known

Weak-Typed Types aren't declared and in some cases mixed and concatenated

Websocket API A type of stateful API that allows the server to know what the user is doing and

vice versa

