

Biomedical Wearable Technologies  
for Healthcare and Wellbeing

# Networking

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A.Y. 2021-2022

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# Outline

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- **Recap**

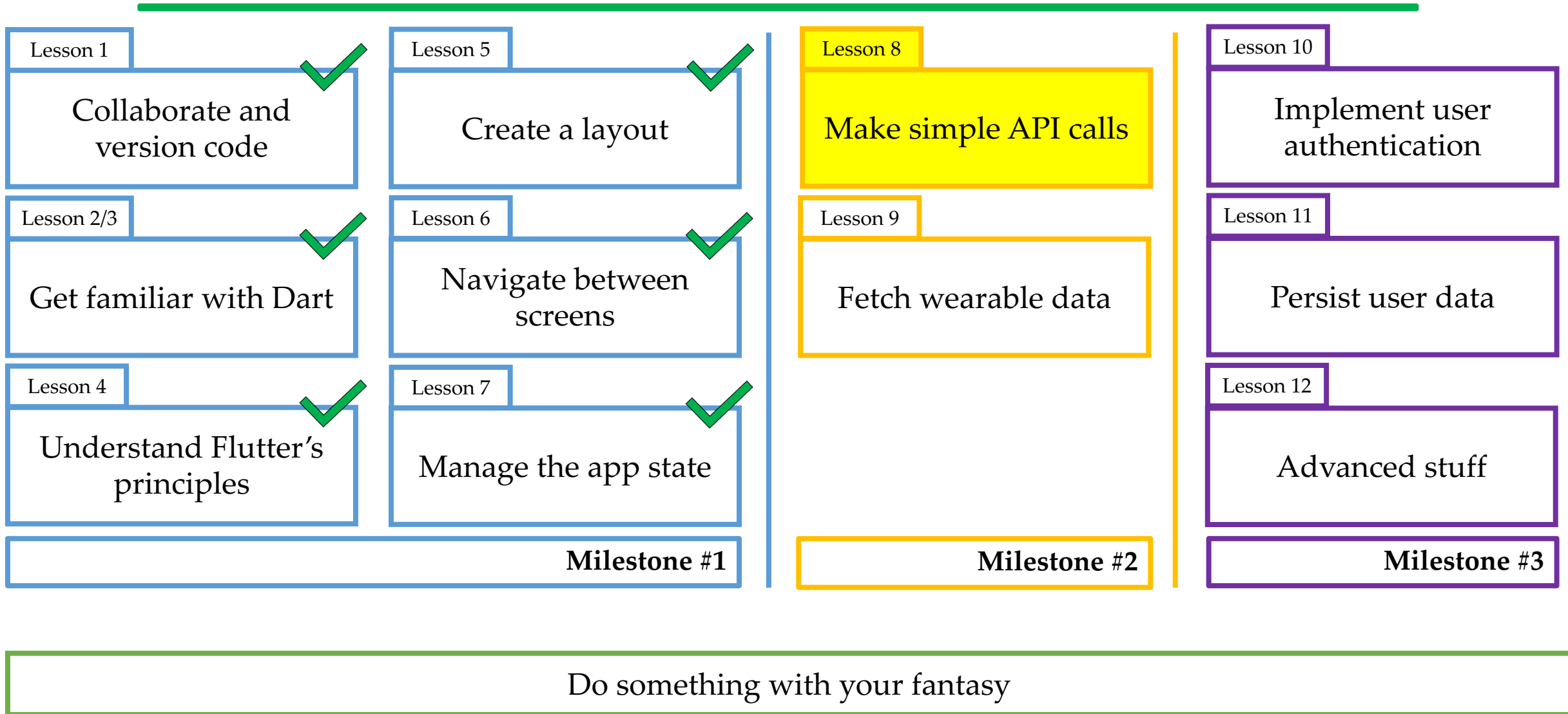
- The network flow
- RESTful API in practice
- Case study

- Exercise

- Homework

- Resources

# Recap



# Outline

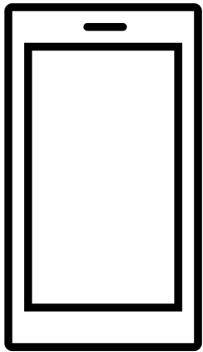
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- Recap
- **The network flow**
- RESTful API in practice
- Case study
  
- Exercise
- Homework
- Resources

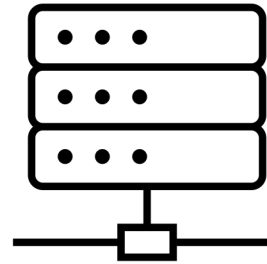
# The network flow

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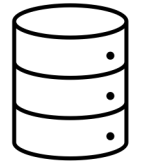
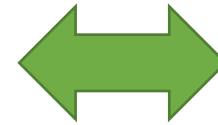
Front-End



RESTful  
API



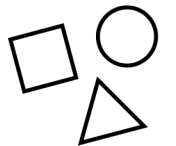
Server



DB



Messaging  
service



Heavy  
computing  
service

Back-End

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# RESTful API in practice

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- From the practical point of view, RESTful API can be used via http following three steps:
  - Step 1: Send an http request to the RESTful API
  - Step 2: Await for the response
  - Step 3: Process the response (usually in a JSON format)
- The http request has the following structure:

**<METHOD> <HTTP or HTTPS>://<DOMAIN>/<ENDPOINT>?<PARAMETERS>**  
**+**  
**<BODY> and <HEADERS>**

- <METHOD> and <ENDPOINT> defines the so-called **route**, e.g.:  
**GET /heartrate/today/**  
**DELETE /user/1**

# RESTful API in practice

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- Beside its content a response contains an **HTTP status code**, i.e., a special number that tells to the frond-end if the request is successful or, otherwise, why it is not successful. Here's the most common:
  - 200: OK
  - 401: UNAUTHORIZED
  - 403: FORBIDDEN
  - 404: NOT FOUND
  - 500: INTERNAL SERVER ERROR
- Normally, the front-end developer has to manage these codes based on the API specifics



# Outline

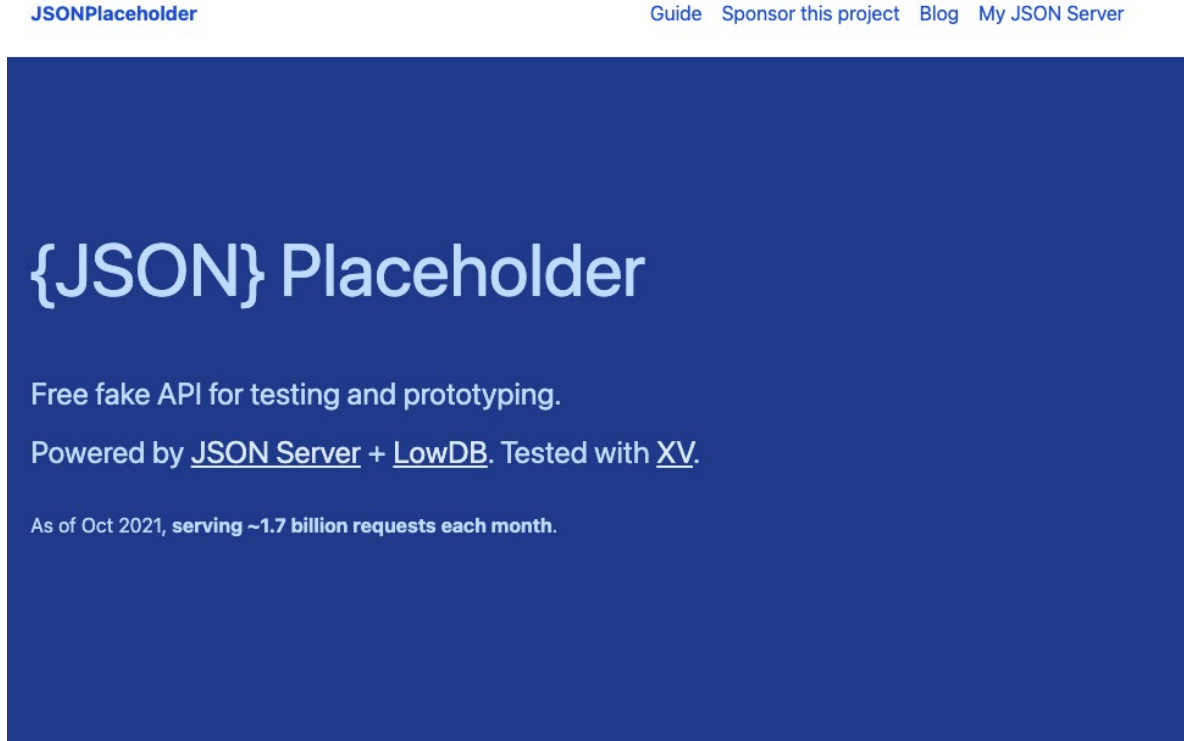
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# {JSON} Placeholder

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- To learn how to do request to an API and process its result we will use {JSON}Placeholder



# {JSON} Placeholder

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- {JSON}Placeholder exposes the following resources and routes we can play with

## Resources

{JSON}Placeholder comes with a set of 6 common resources:

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| <a href="#">/posts</a>    | 100 posts    |
| <a href="#">/comments</a> | 500 comments |
| <a href="#">/albums</a>   | 100 albums   |
| <a href="#">/photos</a>   | 5000 photos  |
| <a href="#">/todos</a>    | 200 todos    |
| <a href="#">/users</a>    | 10 users     |

**Note:** resources have relations. For example: posts have many comments, albums have many photos, ... see [guide](#) for the full list.

## Routes

All HTTP methods are supported. You can use http or https for your requests.

|        |                                    |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| GET    | <a href="#">/posts</a>             |
| GET    | <a href="#">/posts/1</a>           |
| GET    | <a href="#">/posts/1/comments</a>  |
| GET    | <a href="#">/comments?postId=1</a> |
| POST   | <a href="#">/posts</a>             |
| PUT    | <a href="#">/posts/1</a>           |
| PATCH  | <a href="#">/posts/1</a>           |
| DELETE | <a href="#">/posts/1</a>           |

**Note:** see [guide](#) for usage examples.

# {JSON} Placeholder – Post resource

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➤ Let's zoom in the **post** resource:

- <https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts> (this is equivalent to the GET request) will result to:

```
[
  {
    "userId": 1,
    "id": 1,
    "title": "sunt aut facere repellat provident occaecati excepturi optio reprehenderit",
    "body": "quia et suscipit\nsuscipit recusandae consequuntur expedita et cum\nreprehenderit molestiae ut ut quas totam\nnostrum rerum est autem sunt rem eveniet architecto"
  },
  {
    "userId": 1,
    "id": 2,
    "title": "qui est esse",
    "body": "est rerum tempore vitae\nsequi sint nihil reprehenderit dolor beatae ea dolores neque\nfugiat blanditiis voluptate porro vel nihil molestiae ut reiciendis\nqui aperiam non debitis possimus qui neque nisi nulla"
  },
  {
    "userId": 1,
    "id": 3,
    "title": "ea molestias quasi exercitationem repellat qui ipsa sit aut",
    "body": "et iusto sed quo iure\nvoluptatem occaecati omnis eligendi aut ad\nvoluptatem doloribus vel accusantium quis pariatur\nmolestiae porro eius odio et labore et velit aut"
  },
  {
    "userId": 1,
    "id": 4,
    "title": "eum et est occaecati",
    "body": "ullam et saepe reiciendis voluptatem adipisci\nsit amet autem assumenda provident rerum culpa\nquis hic commodi nesciunt rem tenetur doloremque ipsam iure\nquis sunt voluptatem rerum illo velit"
  },
  {
    "userId": 1,
    "id": 5,
```

➤ So, we have a list of posts, each identified via an id, the id of the user who posted it, a title, and a body.

# http package

- To be able to make calls we will use the http package. This provides a simple web client to be used to make http calls.

http 0.13.4

Published 4 months ago • [dart.dev](#) Null safety

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4.2K

[Readme](#) [Changelog](#) [Example](#) [Installing](#) [Versions](#) [Scores](#)

A composable, Future-based library for making HTTP requests.

pub v0.13.4 Dart CI passing

This package contains a set of high-level functions and classes that make it easy to consume HTTP resources. It's multi-platform, and supports mobile, desktop, and the browser.

## Using

The easiest way to use this library is via the top-level functions. They allow you to make individual HTTP requests with minimal hassle:

```
import 'package:http/http.dart' as http;

var url = Uri.parse('https://example.com/whatsit/create');
var response = await http.post(url, body: {'name': 'doodle', 'color': 'blue'});
print('Response status: ${response.statusCode}');
print('Response body: ${response.body}');

print(await http.read(Uri.parse('https://example.com/foobar.txt')));
```

4199 130 100%  
LIKES PUB POINTS POPULARITY

Publisher

[dart.dev](#)

Metadata

A composable, multi-platform, Future-based API for HTTP requests.

[Repository \(GitHub\)](#)

[View/report issues](#)

Documentation

[API reference](#)

License

BSD-3-Clause ([LICENSE](#))

Dependencies

# Android-specific action

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- To be able to access to internet functionalities in Android you are required to provide a specific permission:
- To do so, in the android>app>src>main folder open the AndroidManifest.xml file, and add the following after the <manifest ...> tag:

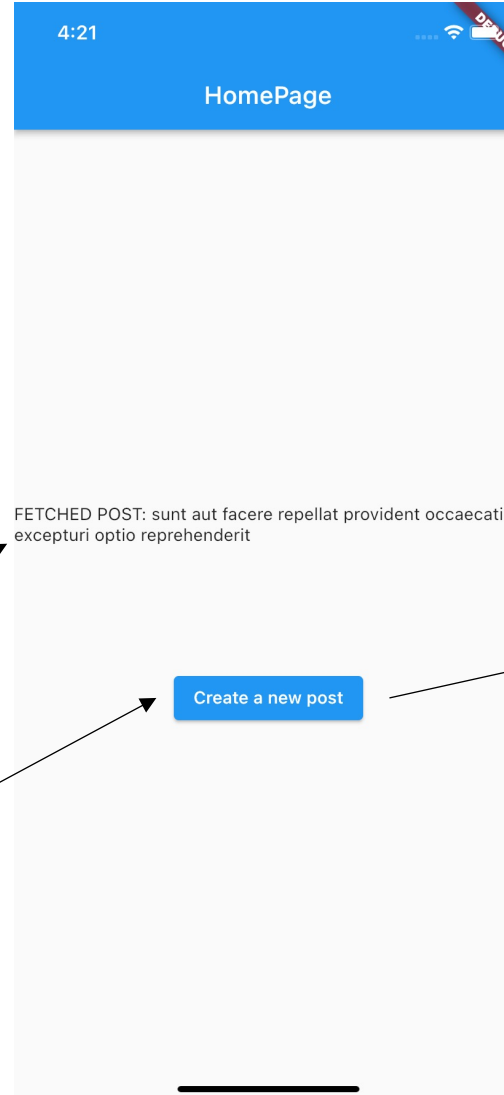
**<uses-permission android:name="android.permission.INTERNET" />**

- No need to do this in iOS.

# Case of study - Live

- To demonstrate how to make and process API calls in Flutter, we will build a very simple app called "network\_master" able to

1. Fetch data of a specific post from {JSON}Placeholder  
→ **GET method**
2. Create a new post in {JSON}Placeholder  
→ **POST method**



## Routes

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**Note:** see [guide](#) for usage examples.

# Outline

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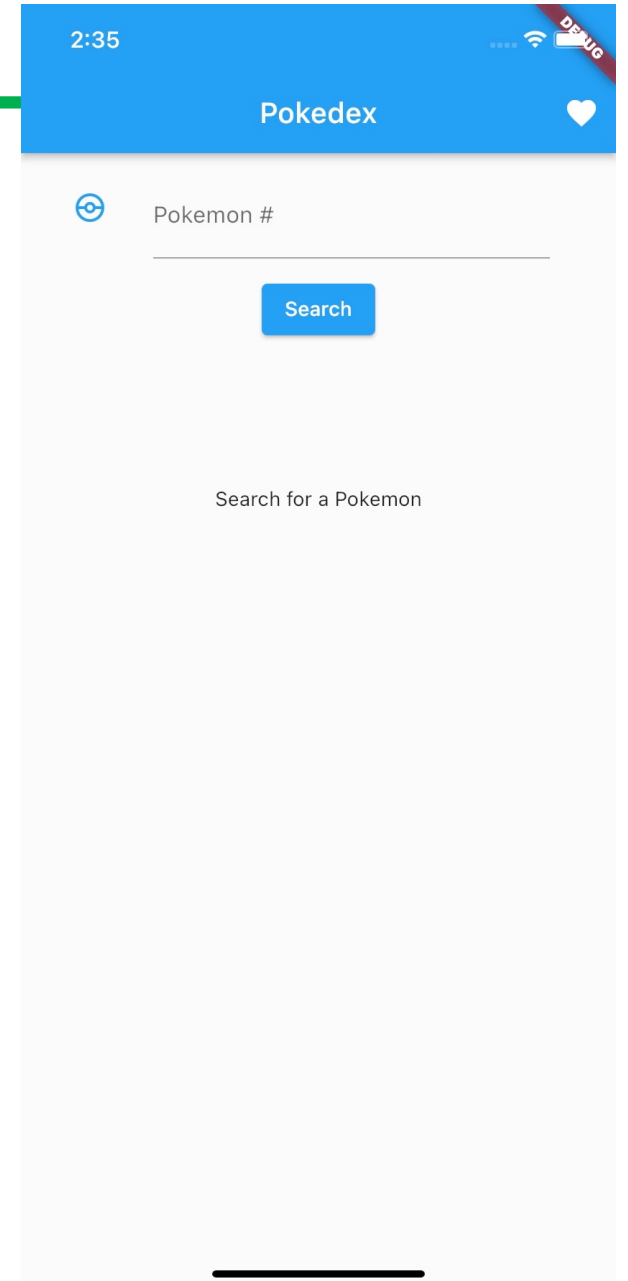
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# Exercise

## ➤ Exercise 08.01

- Implement a Pokédex using the PokeAPI <https://pokeapi.co/> (hint: take a look to the <https://pokeapi.co/api/v2/pokemon/> resource)
- The user can search into the search bar for a Pokémon given its number (be aware that valid numbers go from 1 to 898). Once the button is tapped, if the number is valid, some of the Pokémon details are shown to the user.
- The user can add that Pokémon to its favorites using a button.
- Via a button in the AppBar, the user navigates to another screen where all its favorite Pokémon are shown.
- In the “Favorites Pokémon page” the user can look at the list and delete entries.



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# Homework

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- Get familiar with the http package
- Take a look to a powerful alternative to the http package: Dio
  - <https://pub.dev/packages/dio>

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# Resources

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## ➤ HTTP Status Codes

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_HTTP\\_status\\_codes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_HTTP_status_codes)

## ➤ {JSON}placeholder APIs

- <https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/>

## ➤ PokéAPI

- <https://pokeapi.co/>

## ➤ Fetch data from the internet. Cookbook by the Flutter community

- <https://docs.flutter.dev/cookbook/networking/fetch-data>

## ➤ Send data to the internet. Cookbook by the Flutter community

- <https://docs.flutter.dev/cookbook/networking/send-data>