

Axios vs Express Router vs React Router

TLDR;

We use react router to navigate within our app, we use axios to communicate with our express server and we use our express server to communicate with our database.

You may be wondering at this point how these 3 libraries work together.

We use axios to communicate with our express server backend, we will signify a call to our express server by including “/api/” in the URI. axios can also be used to make direct http requests to any backend endpoint. However for security reasons it is not advised to make requests from the client to the database.

express router is mainly used to communicate with our database, since we can pass in SQL queries in the body of the express router function. express along with Node is used to run code outside of the browser which is what makes SQL queries possible. express is also a more secure way to make http requests rather than axios.

However, we need axios on the React client side to handle the asynchronous http requests, we obviously cant use express router on our React client side. axios is **Promise** based so it can automatically handle asynchronous actions as well.

We use react-router to navigate within our app, since React is a Single Page app the browser does not reload upon a page change. Our app has behind-the-scenes tech that will know automatically if we requesting a route through express or react-router.