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Designing RESTful APIs

ud388 »   View   History

DASHBOARD

Installing the Vagrant VM for RESTful APIs

CLASSROOM

You will use a virtual machine (VM) for all of the activities in this course. The VM is a Linux server system that runs on top of your own computer. You can share files easily between your computer and the VM. I strongly recommend running all of your code on a VM to prevent modifications of any important files on your computer.

MATERIALS

We're using the Vagrant software to configure and manage the VM. Here are the tools you'll need to install to get it running:

Note: If you have already setup the vagrant VM from the Udacity course for Relational Databases (ud197) after 10/25/2015, you do not need to do any further setup

DISCUSSION

Git

If you don't already have Git installed, download Git from git-scm.com. Install the version for your operating system.

OVERVIEW

On Windows, Git will provide you with a Unix-style terminal and shell (Git Bash).
(On Mac or Linux systems you can use the regular terminal program.)

You will need Git to install the configuration for the VM. If you'd like to learn more about Git, take a look at our course about Git and Github.

VirtualBox

VirtualBox is the software that actually runs the VM. You can download it from virtualbox.org, here. Install the *platform package* for your operating system. You do not need the extension pack or the SDK.

Vagrant

Vagrant is the software that configures the VM and lets you share files between your host computer and the VM's filesystem. You can download it from vagrantup.com. Install the version for your operating system.

Use Git to clone the VM configuration

Windows: Use the Git Bash program (installed with Git) to get a Unix-style terminal.
Other systems: Use your favorite terminal program.

From Github, logged into your personal account, fork the fullstack-nanodegree-vm so that you have a personal version you can push to for backup. Later, you'll be able to use this repo for submitting your projects for review as well.

From the terminal, run:

```
git clone http://github.com/udacity/fullstack-nanodegree-vm fullstack
```

This will give you a directory named **fullstack** that is a clone of your remote fullstack-nanodegree-vm repository.

Run the virtual machine!

Using the terminal, change directory to fullstack/vagrant (**cd fullstack/vagrant**), then type **vagrant up** to launch your virtual machine.

Once it is up and running, type **vagrant ssh** to log into it. This will log your terminal in to the virtual machine, and you'll get a Linux shell prompt. When you want to log out, type **exit** at the shell prompt. To turn the virtual machine off (without deleting anything), type **vagrant halt**. If you do this, you'll need to run **vagrant up** again before you can log into it. Be sure to change to the /vagrant directory by typing **cd /vagrant** in order to share files between your home machine and the VM.

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