

Dynamic Web



Setting Up a Server - Exercise Four

Things to cover with this exercise

1. Learn more about Node
2. Use Express on top of Node to create a server
3. Continue to apply JavaScript to a full-stack development experience

Note: You may be shocked by how simple and quick this exercise is. However it helps us to understand and demystify a “server” and its role.

Node

1. What is Node?

A computer runtime written in JavaScript

2. Why are we using Node?

Because it's easier to teach one language instead of two, it is used in many production environments, and it is quick to spin up new instances.

Express

1. What is Express?

“A lightweight and flexible routing framework with minimal core features”

2. Why are we using Express?

To help us route data for users that make valid requests to our server.

3. Are there alternatives?

Yes, probably but Express is the most widest used.

Setting Up a Node Server

Follow Exercise 4 on Github.

All of the requirements for Exercise 4 are from the Express and Node docs (which are linked to in the resources).

If you need to/want to dive deeper I urge you to look in the official docs first as they are pretty good.

This exercise has three parts

1. Setting up Node
2. Serving assets (images)
3. Routing the user