

Postman Expert

PRESENTED BY

Johnny Tu



Welcome & Introductions



Instructor: Johnny Tu

- Training Manager
- Content author
 - Postman
 - Docker
 - NGINX



Housekeeping



Duration

- 3 hours
- 10 minute break every hour
- Ask questions anytime



Format

- Slides
- Demonstrations
- Exercises



Course Prerequisites

Prior Training and/or knowledge

You should have either taken the **Postman Fundamentals** course or be familiar with the following topics

- Postman Requests, Collections, Variables and Environments, Workspaces
- Basic scripting to test API's
- Simple JavaScript code
- HTTP Request structure (HTTP methods, common headers etc...)

Required Tools

Postman Desktop application and account



Course Pre-requisites (cont'd)

If you do not have Postman installed already:

- 1. Go to https://www.getpostman.com/apps, download and install the app.
- 2. If you do not have a Postman account, sign up for a free account.
- 3. Open the Postman desktop application and make sure you are signed into your account



Get course materials

- 1. Open your Postman desktop application and create a new personal Workspace
- Open a web browser and go to <u>https://documenter.getpostman.com/view/4805376/RznEKJNG</u>
- 3. Click the Run in Postman button
- 4. Select "Postman for Windows / Mac" option

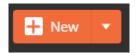


- 5. At the end of this, you should have:
 - **Collection:** Ex1.1 Using Environments
 - **Environment:** testEnv



Get course materials (cont'd)

6. Click the "New" button on the top left of the Postman App



- 7. Select the Templates tab
- 8. Use the search function to search for "Postman Workshop"
- 9. You should see a template called "Postman Workshop Restful Booker"
- 10. Select the template and click "Run in Postman"
- 11. Click on "Create"
- 12. You should now have a collection called "Restful Booker"



Agenda

- 1. Collection Runs
- 2. Advanced Scripting
- 3. API Documentation
- 4. Mock Servers
- 5. Monitors



Module 1 – Collection Runs



Module Objectives

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Start a collection run
- Use environments in a collection run
- Run multiple iterations of a collection
- Upload a data file for a collection run
- Debug a collection run



Start a Collection Run



Intro to Collection runs

- A collection run is an execution of all requests in a collection
- Requests are run one after another
- Collections can be run by
 - Postman application collection runner
 - Newman (CLI tool)
 - Postman monitors



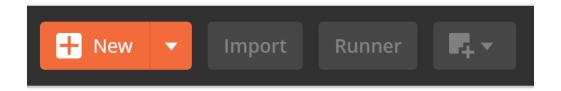
Why run Collections

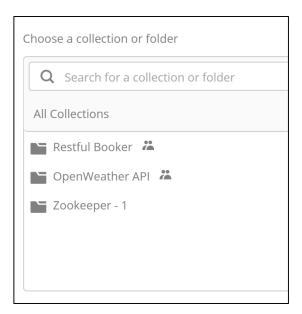
- Useful in automated API testing
- Scripts can be used to build test suites and pass data between API requests
 - Helps to mirror a workflow
 - Replicate a user experience
- Test for hundreds of scenarios by using a data file



Starting a Collection Run

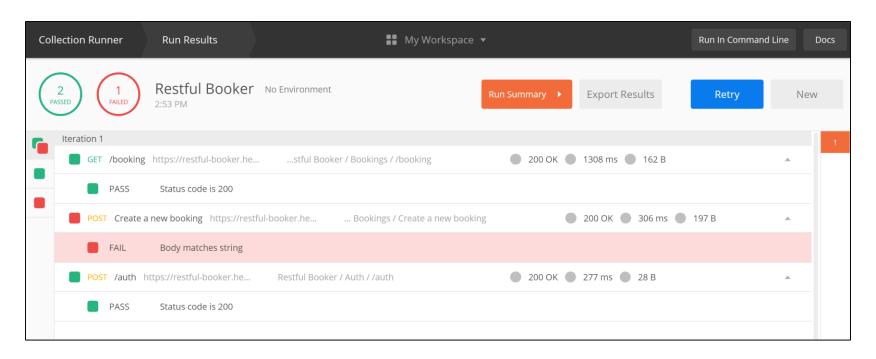
- Click on "Runner" to open the Postman
 Application Collection Runner
- Select the Collection or folder to run
 - Selecting a collection will run all requests in every folder sequentially in the order listed
 - Selecting a folder will run only the requests in that folder
- Click "Run"







Viewing Results





Drill down in Results

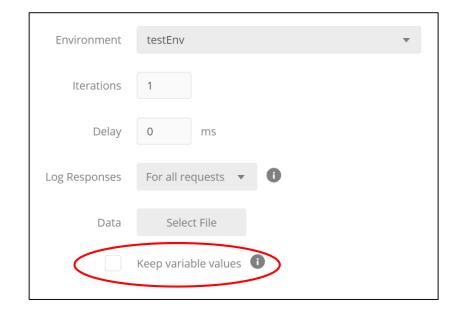
- Can inspect the request and response details for each Request in the collection run
- Useful for troubleshooting failed requests





Using variables in a collection run

- Select environment to use the variable values in a collection run
- "Keep variable values" will
 preserve the "current value" of
 variables if they are changed
 during the collection run





Ex1.1 – Run a collection

- 1. Import the sample Ex1.1 collection and environment provided by the instructor. You should have a collection called "Using Environments" and an environment called "testEnv"
- 2. Open the request in the "Using Environments" collection
- 3. Select the "**testEnv**" environment on the request builder
- 4. Click on the "Environment quick look" button ©
- 5. Check the current value of the "**foo**" variable. It should be "**bar**"
- 6. Send the request and then check the current value of the "**foo**" variable again. Can you identify the cause of the change in the value?
- 7. Change the current value of "foo" back to "bar"



Ex1.1 – Run a collection (cont'd)

8. Click the "Runner" button



- 9. Select the "Using Environments" collection and the "testEnv" environment
- 10. Run the collection and then check the value of the "foo" variable. What do you notice?
- 11. Start a new Collection run using the same settings as before but this time, tick the "Keep variable values" option
- 12. What do you notice about the current value of the "foo" variable afterwards?



Multiple iterations run



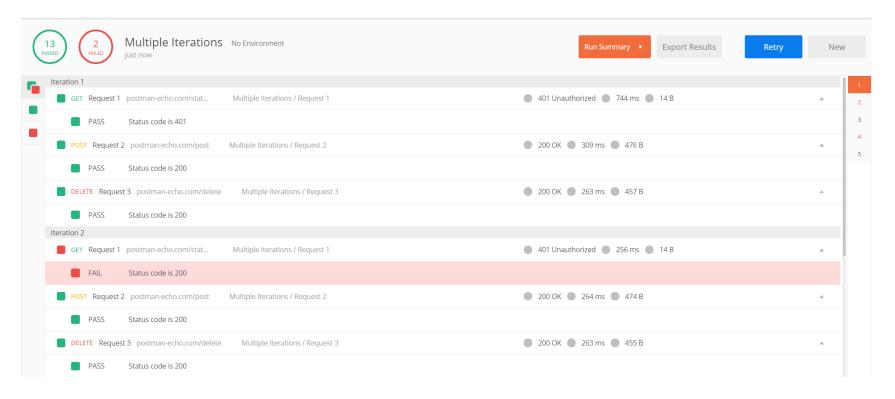
Running multiple iterations

- An iteration represents the number of times a collection will run
- Run multiple iterations to test for consistent behaviour

Environment	testEnv ▼
Iterations	1
Delay	0 ms
Log Responses	For all requests 🔻 🚺
Data	Select File
	Keep variable values i



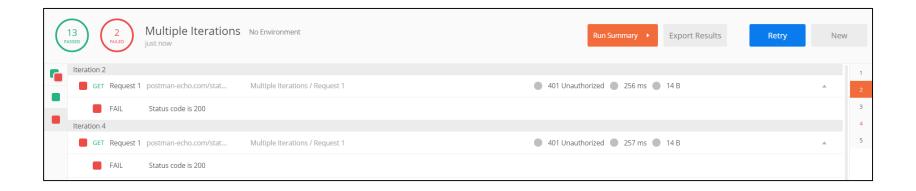
Multiple iteration results





Using red and green filters

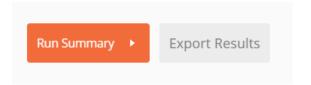
- Useful for filtering results on large collections
- A request where one or more test cases failed will be marked red

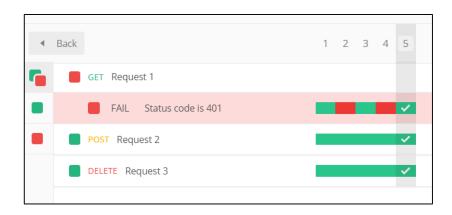




Run summary

- Shows each request and iteration in a timeline format
- Can easily see which request in the collection failed and which iteration the request failed in







Uploading a data file



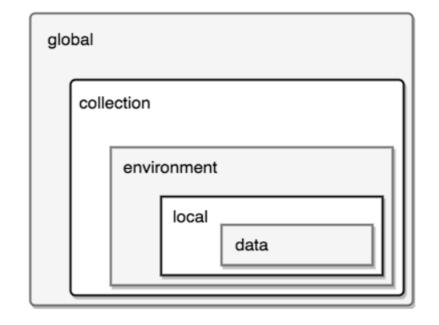
Using a data file

- Upload a data file and use the values defined in the file in your HTTP requests and scripts
- Supported formats are CSV and JSON
- Each record in the data file is treated as a separate iteration
- Benefits:
 - More robust testing of API's by testing for many variations in request parameters
 - Can be used to perform database initialization and
 - Setup and teardown for testing



Data variables

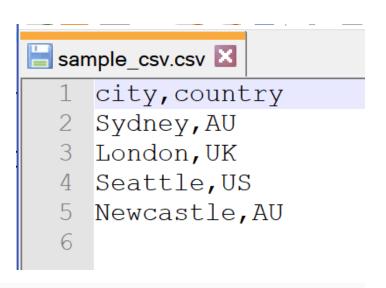
- Values from an uploaded CSV or JSON file during a Collection run are treated as data variables
- Can be used in the same manner as global, collection and environment variables





CSV file format

- First row contains the variable names to be used in the request
- Every row after is used as a data row
- Rows should have the same number of columns



▶ Get Current Weather

GET ▼

api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather?q={{city}},{{country}}&APPID={{apikey}}



JSON file format

- Array of key value pairs
- Each key represents the name of the variable

```
🔚 sample_data_file.json 🔀
    ₽[
              "City": "Sydney",
              "Country": "AU"
  6
              "City": "London",
              "Country": "UK"
 10
              "City": "Newcastle",
               "Country": "AU"
 13
 14
```



Debugging requests

- Drill down on the results to inspect the request and response headers and body
- Use the Postman console
- Console must be open prior to running the collection





Newman



Running collections with Newman

- Newman is the command line tool used to run Postman collections
- Built on Node.js
- Easily integrated with CI/CD servers
- Maintains feature parity with the Postman App
- For more detailed information and examples of usage, see

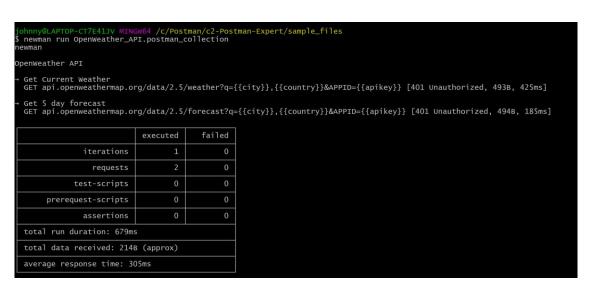
https://github.com/postmanlabs/newman



Running a Collection with Newman

- Need to export the Collection and any environment it uses to a JSON file
- Run Newman against the file

newman run <collection file>





Newman run parameters

Display run options

newman run -h

Run the collection using an environment (environment must first be exported)

newman run <collection_file> -e <environment_file.json>

Run the collection over 10 iterations

newman run <collection_file> -n 10



Module Review

- Collections can be run via the
 Postman app collection runner or via
 Newman
- Changes in variable values during a collection run, can be persisted
- Using a data file allows us to run a collection over many iterations to test for as many variations in input as needed



Module 2 – Advanced Scripting



Module Objectives

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Describe the difference between prerequest and test scripts
- Describe the execution order of Postman scripts
- Write a pre-request script
- Set the script execution order to create a workflow

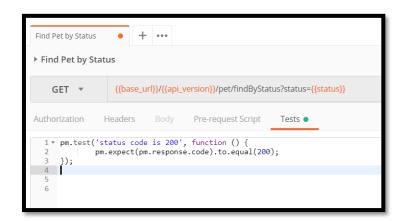


Intro to Scripting



Recall: Postman API Testing

- JavaScript code can be executed after receiving the response to a request
- Access request, response, and variable data
- Postman Sandbox API provides a set of
 JavaScript variables and functions to access
 the request and response data
- The Tests Results tab in the response area to show the results of each test





Types of Postman scripts

- Pre-request script
 - Executed before the postman request is sent
- Test script
 - Executed after the response has been received

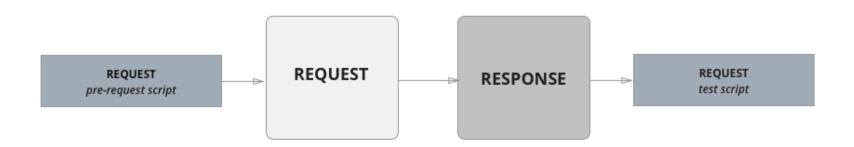




Script execution order

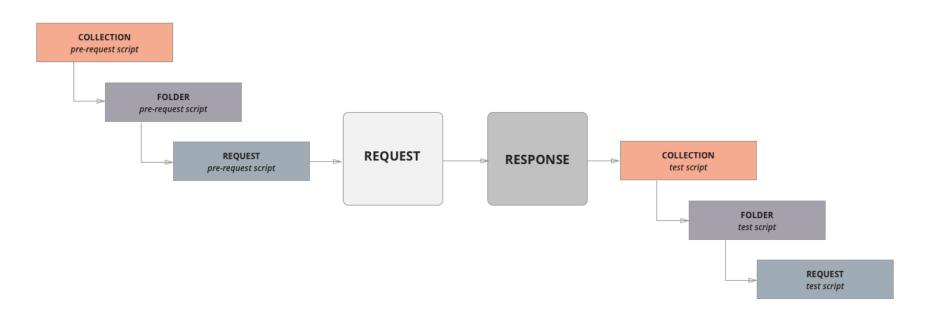
For an individual request:

- Pre-request scripts are executed before the request is sent
- Test scripts executes after the request is sent





Collection script execution order





Script debugging

- Use console.log() function to log values to the console
- Useful for inspect variable and response data and script flow
- Postman Console must be open before running the request

```
var jsonData = pm.response.json();
pm.environment.set("authToken", jsonData.token);

console.log(jsonData.token);

if (jsonData.token === null) {
   postman.setNextRequest(null);
}

24 * else {
   console.log("Token not obtained");
   postman.setNextRequest("Update Booking (partial");
}
```



Pre-request scripts



Writing a pre-request script

- Written in JavaScript
- Same as test scripts but without access to the response object
- Typically used to manipulate data before a request is sent
 - Set variable values based on a function call
 - Add headers such as timestamp



EX2.1 – Write a pre-request script

- Create a Collection called "Forex"
- 2. Create a new request with the following URL: https://api.exchangeratesapi.io/{{date}}?base={{currency}} and save it to the Forex collection. Name the request "Get Historical Exchange Rate"
- Create an environment called "Forex" with the "currency" and "date" variables defined
- 4. Set the initial and current value of the "currency" variable to "USD"
- 5. Set a placeholder value for the "date" variable



EX2.1 - (cont'd)

6. Switch to the "Pre-request" tab and write the following script:

```
const moment = require('moment');
var previousWeek = moment().subtract(7, 'days').format('YYYY-MM-DD');
pm.environment.set("date", previousWeek);
```

7. Run the request with the "Forex" environment and check the date on the response body. The date we should see should be exactly 7 days ago from today.



Test Scripts



Recall – Examples of Test Scripts

- Many types of tests are available in snippets
 - Check response code
 - Check JSON value
 - Check response headers and body

```
Params • Authorization Headers Body Pre-request Script Tests •

1 * pm.test("Status code is 200", function () {
    pm.response.to.have.status(200);

3 });

4

5 * pm.test("Check Correct City", function () {
    var jsonData = pm.response.json();
    pm.expect(jsonData.name).to.eql(pm.environment.get("city"));
    });

9

10
```

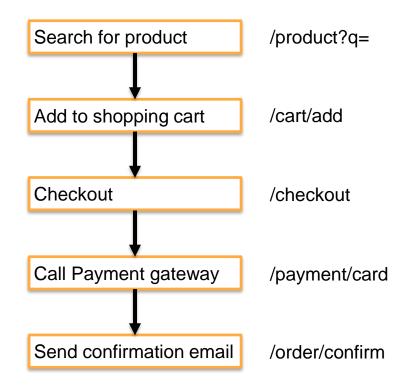


Building Workflows



Intro to Workflows

- A workflow is a sequence of requests in a collection, which represents a particular user story / application feature
- Each sequence in the workflow is a separate API call
- For example: Purchase an item from a store





Controlling the request order

- Requests in a collection are executed in linear order (in the order that you see them listed)
- To build a workflow, we must control the sequencing of our requests.
- Use the postman.setNextRequest() function in our test script
 - postman.setNextRequest("request name");
 - postman.setNextRequest(null);



postman.setNextRequest() function

- Can be used in pre-request or test script
 - Last set value is considered
- Always executed at the end of the current script.
- Function scope is limited to the source of your collection run
 - If running from Collection level, you can set any request as the next request
 - If running from a folder level, you can only set a request in the same folder as the next request
- If function is not present in any script in a request, the collection runner defaults to the next request in linear order



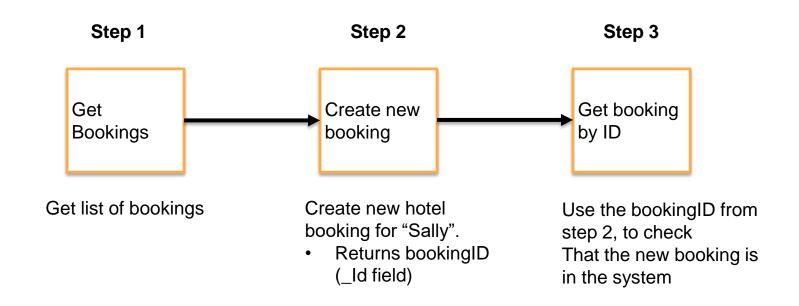
Our example workflow

- Restful booker API hosted on a server
- Instructor will provide server URL
- Collection is already defined and ready for import

Get Bookings	/booking
Create new booking	/booking
Update Booking	/booking/{{id}}
Get booking by ID	/booking/{{id}}
Delete booking	/booking/{{id}}
Get auth token	/auth



Building our example workflow (part 1)





EX2.2 – Build Example Workflow (part 1)

- 1. Open the **Restful Booker** collection
- 2. Create an environment call **Restful Booker** and define a variable called "url". Your instructor will provide the URL value.
- 3. In the same environment, define a variable called "bookingID". Do not set a value
- 4. Open the **Create new booking** request inside the **Restful Booker** collection.
- 5. Go to the "Tests" tab and add the following lines at the end:

```
var bookingID = jsonData._Id;
console.log(bookingID);
pm.environment.set("bookingID", bookingID);
postman.setNextRequest("Get Booking by ID");
```

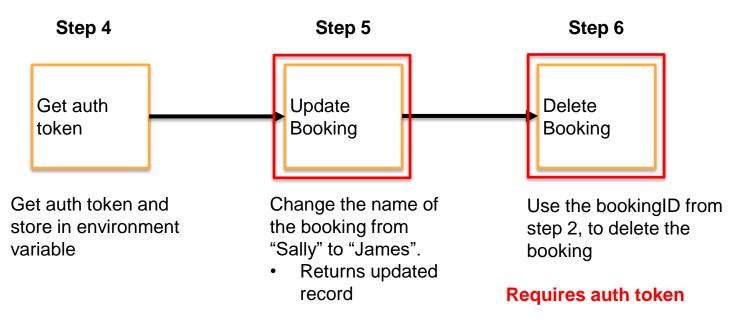


EX2.2 – (cont'd)

- 6. Open the Postman Console
- 7. Select the **Restful Booker** environment
- 8. Run the **Create New Booking** request. Take note of the booking ID in the JSON response data and also in the Console log
- Open the Restful Booker environment and check the current value of the booking ID. Does this match the value in step 4?
- 10. Run the **Get Booking by ID** request. You should get the same record returned as the one you just created.



Building our example workflow (part 2)



Requires auth token



EX2.3 - Build Example Workflow (part 2)

- 1. Open the **Get Booking by ID** request and go to the "Tests" tab
- 2. Write a line to set the next request to **Get Auth Token**
- 3. Open the **Restful Booker** environment and define a new variable called "authToken". Set a placeholder value in the Initial Value field
- 4. Open the **Get Auth Token** request and go to the "Tests" tab
- 5. Add the following lines:

```
var jsonData = pm.response.json();
pm.environment.set("authToken", jsonData.token);
```

6. Add a line to set the next request to **Update Booking**



EX2.3 - (cont'd)

- 7. In the **Restful Booker environment,** define a variable called "password" and set its current value to "password123"
- 8. Run the **Get Auth Token** request. Check the token on the response and then check the value of the "authToken" environment variable. They should match
- 9. Open the **Update Booking** request and go to the "Headers" tab
- 10. Add the "Cookie" header with value of "token={ {authToken}}"
- 11. Go to the "Tests" tab and set the next request to Delete Booking
- 12. Open the **Delete Booking** request and repeat Step 10



EX2.3 - (cont'd)

- 12. Run the **Update Booking** request. You should see that the booking name is now "James"
- 13. Confirm step 12 by running **Get booking by ID** again
- 14. Run the **Delete Booking** request
- 15. Run **Get booking by ID** again. This time you should get a response saying "Not Found"



Our example workflow (correct order)

 Now we are ready to run the collection

Get Bookings	/booking
Create new booking	/booking
Get booking by ID	/booking/{{id}}
Get auth token	/auth
Update Booking	/booking/{{id}}
Delete booking	/booking/{{id}}



EX2.4 – Run workflow

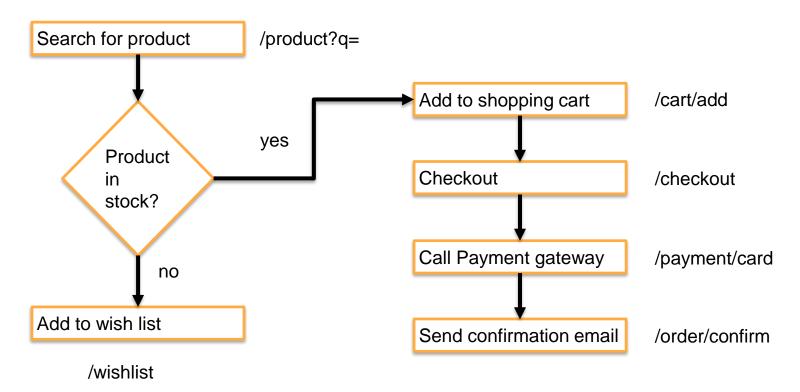
- 1. Open the Collection Runner
- 2. Select the **Restful Booker** collection
- 3. Select the **Restful Booker** environment
- 4. Click Run. What do you notice? Why do you think this is occurring?
- 5. Open the **Delete Booking** request from the collection and go to the "Tests" tab
- 6. Add the line

```
postman.setNextRequest(null);
```

7. Run the Collection again. What do you observe this time?



Workflow conditional logic





Implementing conditional logic

 Use 'if' statement to check a condition and decide which request to execute next

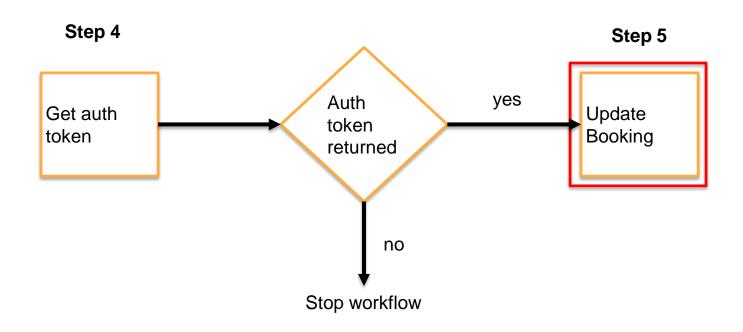
```
var jsonData = pm.response.json();
pm.environment.set("authToken", jsonData.token);
console.log(jsonData.token);

if (jsonData.token === null) {
    postman.setNextRequest(null);
}

24 * else {
    console.log("Token not obtained");
    postman.setNextRequest("Update Booking (partial");
}
```



EX2.5 – Implement condition logic





EX2.5 - (cont'd)

1. Open the **Get Auth Token** request and replace the

```
"postman.setNextRequest" line with the following:

if (jsonData.token === undefined) {
    postman.setNextRequest(null);
} else {
    postman.setNextRequest("Update Booking (partial)";
}
```

- 2. Change the value of the password variable to anything and run the collection.
- 3. What do you observe?



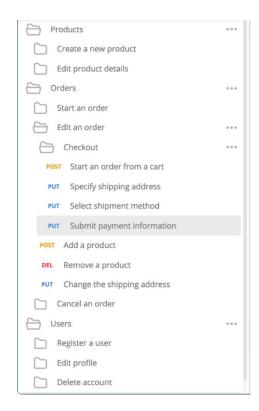
Postman Sandbox API

- The JavaScript execution environment for pre-request and test scripts
- Gives access to the request, response and variable objects
- Functions from common utility libraries such as
 - cheerio
 - tv4 JSON schema validation
- https://www.getpostman.com/docs/v6/postman/scripts/postman_sandbox
- API reference at
 https://www.getpostman.com/docs/v6/postman/scripts/postman_sandbox_a
 pi reference



Organizing collections

- Suggestions for organizing requests into folders
- Three level folder hierarchy
- Group API resources in top level folder (users, orders, products etc...)
- Second level folder contains test suites for those resources
 - Create new user
 - Submit order
- Third level folder for complex tests which require a workflow through multiple requests





Module Review

Key Points:

- Pre-request scripts are effective for manipulating data
- The response of a request can be used as input in a subsequent request
- Scripts at the collection level are executed first, followed by the folder level and then individual request



Module 3 – API Documentation



Module Objectives

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Create public and private documentation for your API
- Outline the content that is automatically generated in documentation
- Write documentation content using markdown



Creating Private Documentation



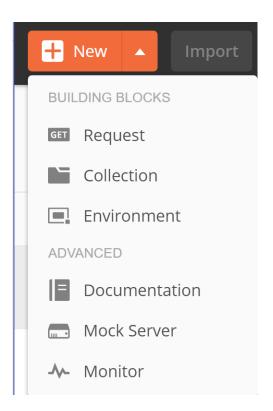
Intro to API documentation

- Postman can generate and host web based documentation for your API
- Documentation is based on the requests defined in a collection
- Markdown support for formatting
- Private view for you and your team
- Publish docs to make them visible to the public



Creating Documentation

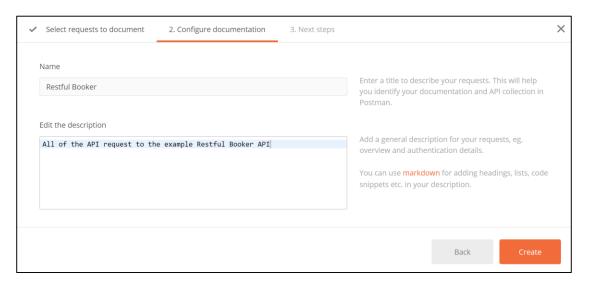
- Different ways to create documentation
 - New button
 - View the private documentation of an existing collection
 - Publishing public documentation of an existing collection
 - From the Postman app launch screen





Create documentation from New Button

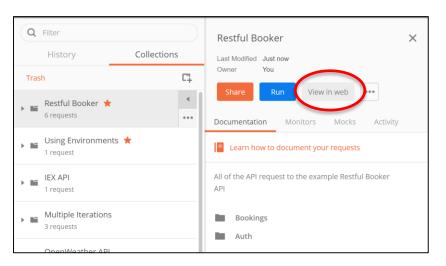
- Choose the "Use Collection from this workspace" tab
- Select the collection
- Configure name and description and click "Create"





Viewing private documentation

- Click the "Play" button of a collection
- Click "View in web"
- If there's no existing documentation on the collection, it will be created
- Visible only to author of collection unless the collection is shared in a team workspace



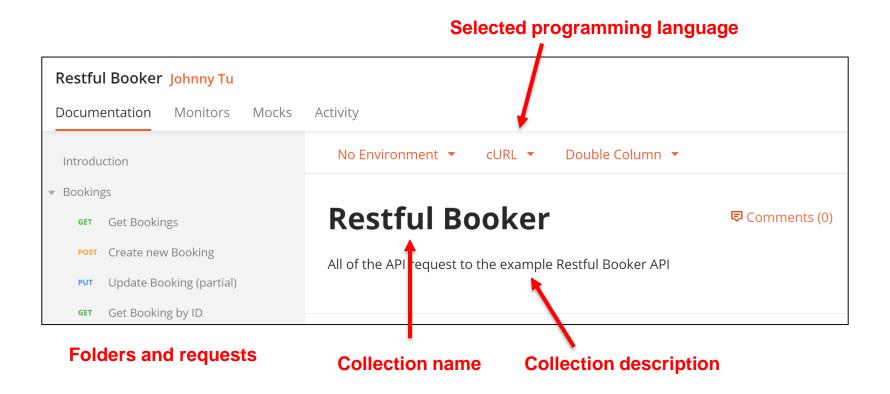


Documentation content

- Postman automatically generates the documentation content by using the contents of the folders and requests in your collection
- Descriptions for the collection, folders and requests
- For each request the docs will show:
 - Configured headers and parameters
 - Request body (if applicable)
 - Generated cope snippets in various programming languages

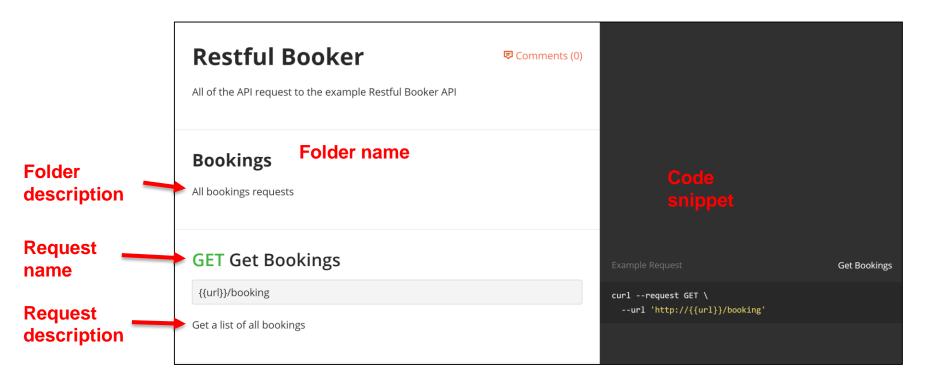


Example Documentation page





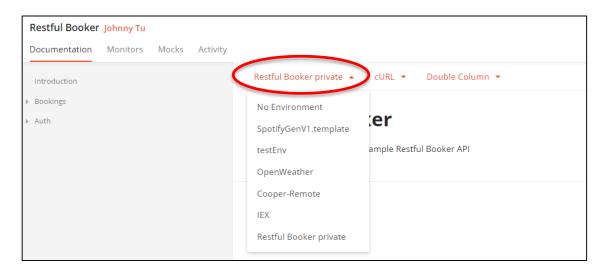
Documented Requests





Selecting an environment

- Selecting an environment will assign the environment values to any variables in the documentation
 - Only the variable "Initial Value" is assigned
- Can select from all local and shared environments.





EX3.1 – Generate private documentation

- Click the "New" dropdown and select "Documentation"
- 2. Select the Restful Booker collection and create the documentation for it
- 3. Open the Restful Booker collection documentation
- 4. Browse through the requests in the docs
- 5. Select the Restful Booker environment and observe how variable values are substituted in the docs



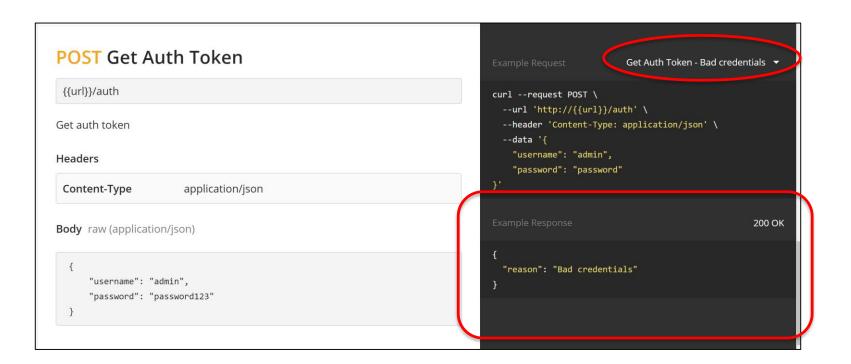
Example requests and responses

- It's useful to show example responses in the documentation to assist developers in understanding what to expect
- To include example responses, run the request and save the response
- Can include as many examples as needed
 - Name them effectively to make it easy for users to understand what each example illustrates





Viewing Example responses





EX3.2 – Save example responses

- 1. Open the **Get Auth Token** request in the Restful Booker collection
- 2. Change the CURRENT VALUE of the "password" variable in the Restful Booker environment to "wrongpw" and send the request. You should get a response saying "Bad Credentials"
- 3. Save the response and call it "Get Auth Token Bad credentials"
- 4. Change the CURRENT VALUE of the "password" variable in the Restful Booker environment to "password123" and send the request. This time you should receive an auth token in the response
- 5. Save the response and call it "Get Auth Token Token returned"
- 6. Go to the web browser and refresh your documentation page
- 7. Scroll down to the "Get Auth Token" endpoint. You should be able to select from your two example responses

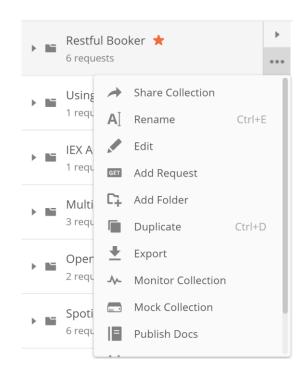


Publishing Documentation



Creating public documentation

- Click the "Publish" button on the private documentation page
- Click "Publish Docs" from collection drop down
- Must be collection author or have write permissions to publish the docs
- Changes made in the collection will be automatically reflected in the published docs



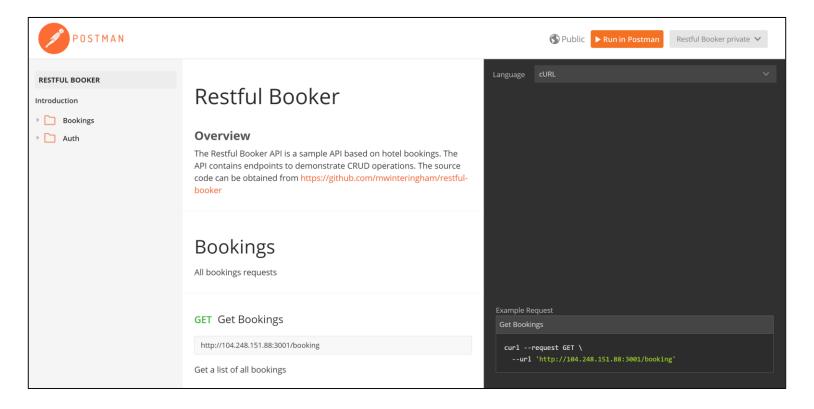


Publishing options

- Select the appropriate environment so references to variables will be replaced with the value from the environment
 - Remember not to include any sensitive data in the environment values
- Custom page styling options
- Make your API discoverable through the API network (Postman Pro and Enterprise only)
 - https://www.getpostman.com/docs/v6/postman/launching_postman/newbutton#
 api-network
- Share as a template



Public documentation view





Run in Postman button

- Allows anyone to import a collection and its associated environment with one click
- Included on public documentation pages
- Can generate your own "Run in Postman" embed code and embed it onto any web page
- Great for developer onboarding
- Examples:
 - https://developer.okta.com/reference/postman_collections/
 - https://apidocs.imgur.com/





EX3.3 – Publish documentation

- On your web browser, go to the private documentation view you created in Exercise 3.1
- Click Publish
- 3. Select the Restful Booker environment and then publish the documentation
- 4. Go back to the Postman App and open the Restful Booker docs in the private view (use the "View in Web" option)
- 5. Click on the "Published" button on the top right



6. Select "Edit Published Documentation" and then click on the "Unpublish" button to remove your documentation from public view



Module Review

Key Points:

- Private documentation is created based on a collection and it's configured folders and requests
- Publishing as collection's private documentation makes it available for public viewing



Module 4 – Mock Servers



Module Objectives

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Create a mock server for a new API
- Define example responses for mock requests
- Describe how Postman selects which response to use for a given mock request

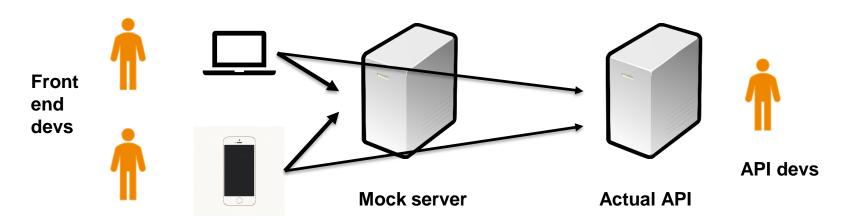


Intro to Mock servers



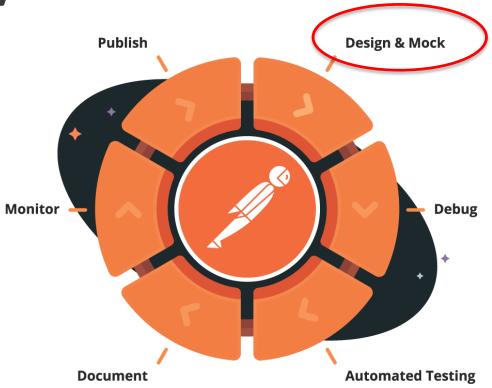
What is a mock

- A mock is a fake API that simulates a server response
- Postman mocks are associated with an underlying collection





API Lifecycle





Public vs Private mocks

- Public mock
 - Mock server is accessible by anyone
 - No need for Postman API key
 - Mock servers are by default, publicly available
- Private mock
 - Only accessible to users who have access to the underlying Collection
 - Users must use their Postman API key when sending requests to the mock endpoints

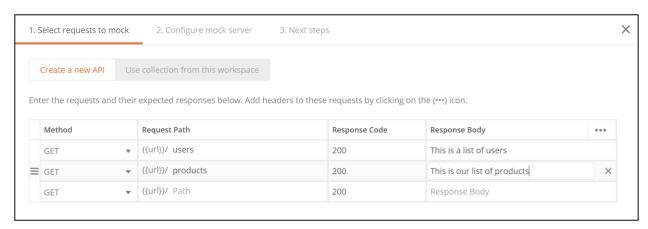


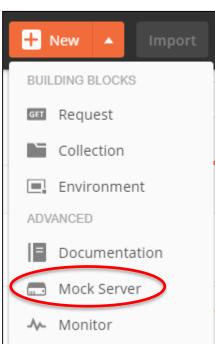
Create a mock server



Create a mock

- Two ways to create a Mock
 - Create a new API
 - Create from an existing Collection

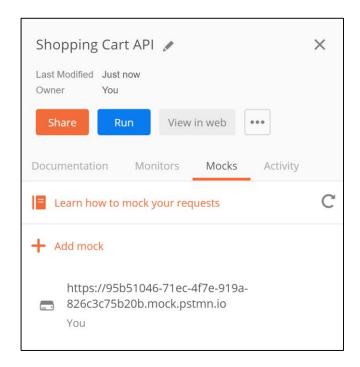






Create a mock (cont'd)

- Create from API
 - Define the endpoints you want to mock
 - Specify the HTTP method and response code for each endpoint
 - Define an example response for each endpoint
- Postman will create a new mock server and collection for your API
- An environment will be created with a "url" variable,
 which contains the URL to the mock server
- Open the Collection and go to the "Mocks" tab to see the mock server





EX4.1 – Create a mock server

- 1. Click the "New" dropdown in the header and select "Mock Server"
- 2. Select the "Create a new API" tab
- 3. Fill in the details as indicated on the screenshot below and click "Next"

Method		Request Path	Response Code	Response Body	•••
GET	•	{{url}}/ orders	200	This is the list of orders	
GET	•	{{url}}/ products	200	This is the list of products	
POST	~	{{url}}/ orders	200	Order created	



EX4.1 - (cont'd)

- 4. On the "Name" field, type "Shopping Cart API"
- 5. Do not select an environment and leave the "Make this mock server private" checkout blank
- 6. Click "Create"
- 7. You should now see the mock server URL
- 8. Find the Shopping Cart API on your Collection's list and expand it
- 9. Click the "Mocks" tab to see your mock server listed
- 10. Find and select the "Shopping Cart API" on the environment drop down list
- 11. Click on the "Environment quick look" button and confirm that you can see the mock URL
- 12. Open your browser and sends a request to <mock url>/orders. What do you see in the response?

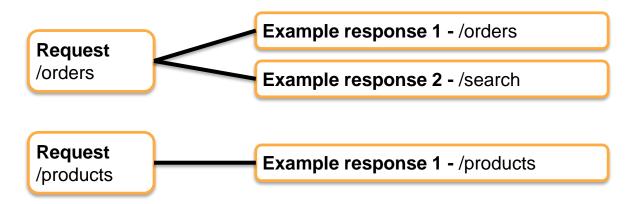


Mock with Examples



Mock responses

- Mock responses are dependant on your saved examples
- Examples are matched against the request URL and method type
- Multiple examples can be saved against each request in a Collection
- Example can have a unique endpoint





EX4.2 – Create examples

- 1. Open the GET **Orders** request in the in the Shopping Cart API
- 2. Click the "Examples" dropdown and select "Add Example"



3. Configure the name and example request as shown:

NAME									
	order search								
EXAMPLE REQUEST									
	GET	~	{{url}}/search						



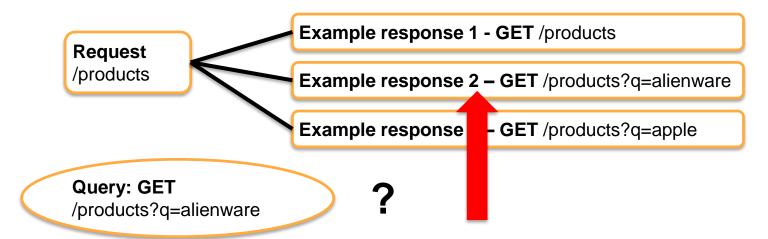
EX4.2 - (cont'd)

- 4. In the example response body, type "This is the list of orders based on our search"
- 5. Click "Save Example" on the top right corner
- 6. Use Postman to send a request to the mock server on the "/search" endpoint
- 7. What can you observe in your response?
- 8. Change the request to /orders and observe the response



Using query parameters

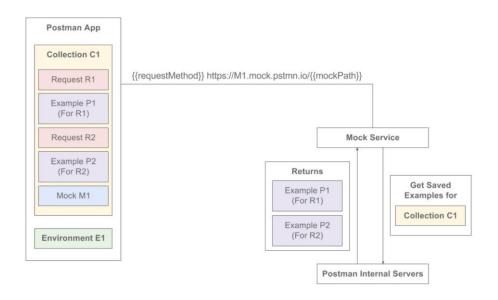
- Different example responses can be returned based on matching query parameters
- Allows mocking of different responses for different query parameters on the same request path





Matching algorithm

- When multiple examples are configured for a request, how does the mock service know which one to return?
- When a mock call is made, the mock service retrieves all saved examples for that collection, from the Postman servers and begins the matching process.





Matching algorithm (cont'd)

- The incoming request is paired with the closest matching example
- The request method, mock path and various request headers are checked
- The matching algorithm will remove example responses from the list of options it can return, based on the following logic

- Properly formatted responses
 - Responses not in the expected format are removed



Matching algorithm – (cont'd)

HTTP method

Responses that don't correspond to the request HTTP method are removed

URL filter

- Iterate over the remaining examples to compare the mock path of the request to the example and set a threshold value
- Step by step matching in the following order
 - 1. Exact match
 - 2. Strip out trailing slashes
 - 3. Lower case the example path and the request mock path
 - 4. Strip out alphanumeric ID's from both input and example path
 - 5. If all the steps have failed, the example is not eligible



Matching algorithm – (cont'd)

4. Response code

- Check if the request has the x-mock-response-code header and filter out the examples with a non matching response code

5. Highest threshold value

 Remaining response are sorted in descending order and the one with the highest threshold value is returned.



Module Review

Key Points:

- Mock servers help speed up overall application development
- Mock server calls are dependent on configured example responses
- Postman supports multiple responses per mock endpoint



Module 5 – Monitors



Module Objectives

After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Describe the process of monitoring a collection
- Setup and configure a monitor for a collection



Intro to Monitors

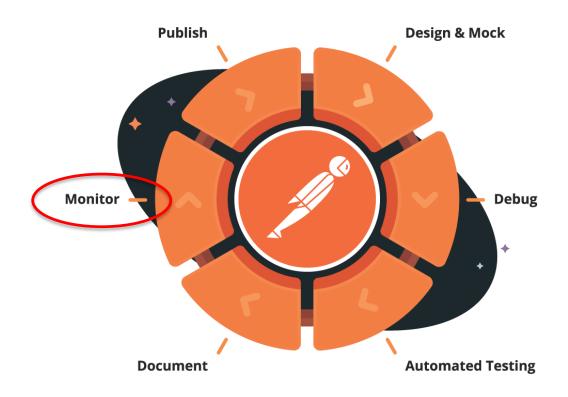


What is monitoring

- A monitor is a scheduled run of a Collection
- A monitor allows you to run a collection periodically to check for performance
- Checks are done to ensure all requests in a collection are healthy
- Tests in each request are also run
- Monitor's can be configured to send notification alerts when there are test failures



API lifecycle





Collection Runner vs Monitor

- Differences exists between running collections with the collection runner and with a monitor
- Variables
 - No import of global variables
 - No variable persistence
- Console output
 - Request and response bodies and sensitive headers are not logged by default
- Monitors only run 1 iteration and the max run time is 5 minutes
- Data files
 - Cannot upload a data file but can use data files from API's such as Google sheets or Dropbox
- All API's endpoints must be publicly available



Pricing

- Postman monitors are billed per-request made
- Free Postman users are allowed 1000 free monitoring calls per month
- Postman Pro teams allowed 10,000 free monitoring calls per month
- Postman Enterprise teams allowed 100,000 free monitoring calls per month

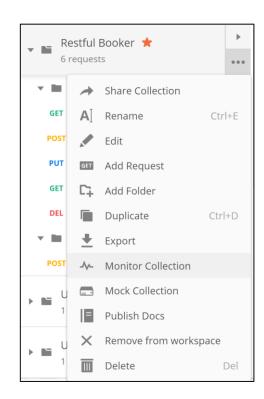


Setup a Monitor



Create a monitor

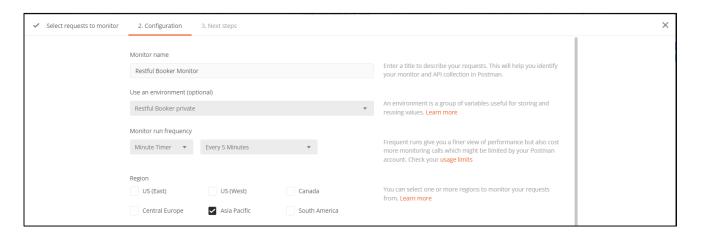
- Can create a monitor from an existing Collection or create a new API in the process
- Select environment to use when running the collection
- Define the frequency
 - Lowest interval is 5 minutes
- Select region where the monitor will run





Create a monitor – (cont'd)

- Monitors created on a shared collection will be visible to the team
- Monitors created on a private collection will only be visible to you
- Cannot share monitor's across workspaces





Additional preferences

Hide additional preferences	
	Receive email notifications for run failures and errors
	Request timeout
	Request delay
	Don't follow redirects
	Disable SSL Validation



Multi region monitoring

- When select the region for your monitor, you can choose multiple regions
- The region defines where the monitoring calls to the API are made from
- The monitor will run the collection once for each region specified
- Results in more monitoring calls
- Failures will be duplicated



EX5.1 – Create a monitor

- Open the Restful Booker environment and set the initial value of the password variable to "password123"
- 2. Click the "New" dropdown and select "Monitor"
- 3. Select the "Use Collection from this Workspace" option and choose the Restful Booker collection
- 4. Name the monitor "Restful Booker monitor"
- 5. Select the Restful Booker environment
- 6. Set the monitor frequency to be once per day
- 7. Select any region of your choice
- 8. Add yourself to receive email notifications on run failures and errors
- 9. Click Create

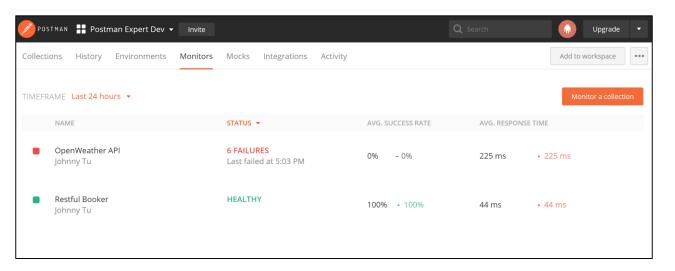


Viewing monitor results



Monitors page

- Monitor results are viewed through the web portal of your Postman account
- Monitors page displays the list of monitors you have access to (individual and team)





Monitor details page

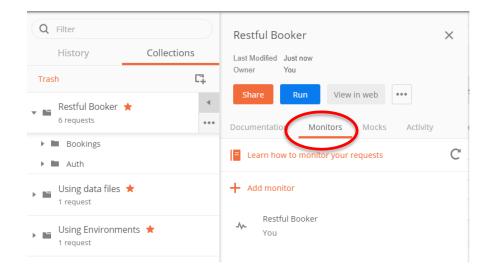
- Shows all past runs of the monitor
- Red columns indicate failed runs, green indicates successful runs
- Click on the column to show the full run details.





Viewing your monitor results

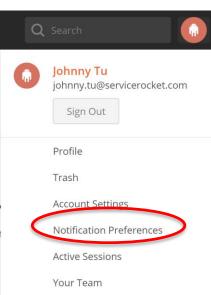
- Monitor results are shown in the web portal of your Postman account
- Can have multiple monitors in a collection
- Expand the collection view in the Postman App and go to the Monitors tab to find the list of monitors for that collection

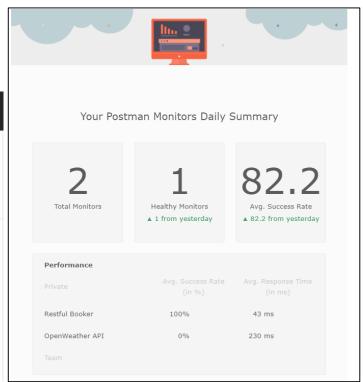




Monitor email summary

- Receive a daily or weekly email summary of your monitors
- Configured in your account Notification preferences







EX5.2 – View monitor results

- On the Postman App, click on the Restful Booker collection and click on the Monitors tab
- 2. Click the monitor listed to open up the monitor details page
- 3. Click the "Run" button to run the collection and then refresh the page
- 4. Open up the details of the latest run and alternate between the "Test Results" tab and the "Console Log" tab



Module Review

Key Points:

- Monitors run a collection in the cloud on a scheduled basis to test our API's
- Some differences exist when running a collection on the collection runner compared to running in a monitor
- Email notifications can be sent out in the result of a failed collection run



Further references

- Documentation https://learning.getpostman.com
- Blog http://blog.getpostman.com
- Postman API docs https://docs.api.getpostman.com/
- Restful Booker sample API https://restful-booker.herokuapp.com/apidoc/index.html
 - https://github.com/johnny-tu/restful-booker (API ported over to Java)



You have reached the end of the Postman Expert course!