



POSTMAN

Postman Expert

PRESENTED BY

Johnny Tu

Welcome & Introductions



Instructor: Johnny Tu

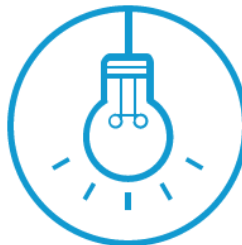
1. Training Manager
2. Content author
 1. Postman
 2. Docker
 3. NGINX

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
- Node.js and Newman installed
- OpenWeather API 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

OpenWeather API account is needed for later exercises

1. Go to https://home.openweathermap.org/users/sign_up and register for a free account
2. Sign in to your newly registered account
3. Click on the “API Keys” tab and verify that an API key was created

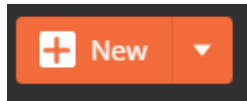
Get course materials

1. Open your Postman desktop application and create a new personal Workspace
2. Open a web browser and go to
<https://documenter.getpostman.com/view/4805376/RznEKJNG>
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 “EX2.2”
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

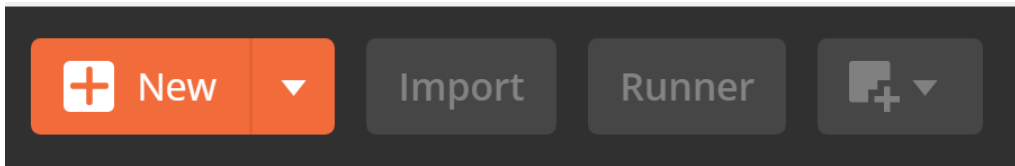
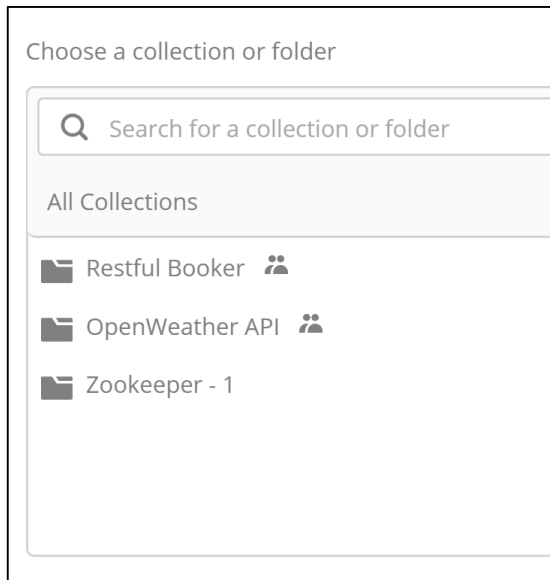
- A collection run is an execution of all requests in a collection
- Requests are run one after another
- Collections can be run by
 - Postman application collection runner
 - Newman (CLI tool)
 - Postman monitors

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

Collection Runner Run Results My Workspace Run In Command Line Docs

2
PASSED

1
FAILED

Restful Booker

No Environment
2:53 PM

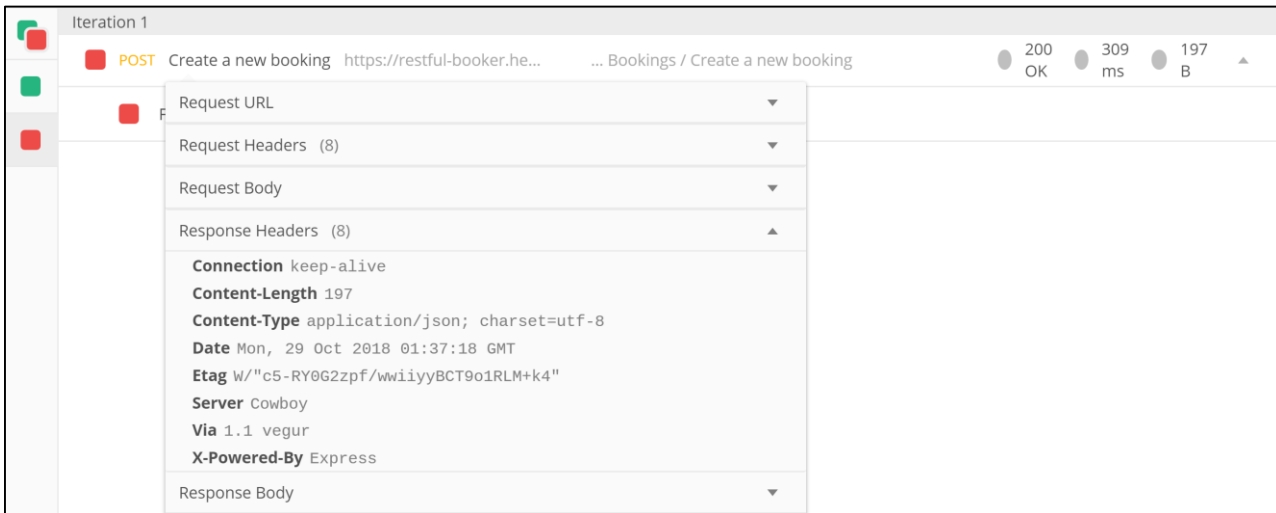
Run Summary Export Results Retry New

Iteration 1

GET	/booking	https://restful-booker.he...	...stful Booker / Bookings / /booking	200 OK	1308 ms	162 B	▲
PASS	Status code is 200						
POST	Create a new booking	https://restful-booker.he...	... Bookings / Create a new booking	200 OK	306 ms	197 B	▲
FAIL	Body matches string						
POST	/auth	https://restful-booker.he...	Restful Booker / Auth / /auth	200 OK	277 ms	28 B	▲
PASS	Status code is 200						

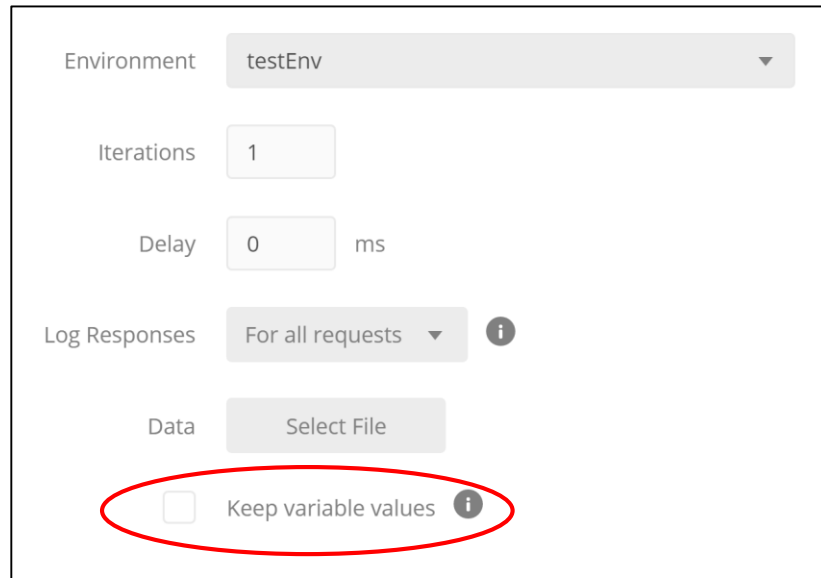
Drill down in Results

- 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



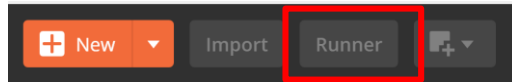
The image shows the 'Run' settings panel in Postman. It includes a dropdown for 'Environment' set to 'testEnv', a text input for 'Iterations' set to '1', a text input for 'Delay' set to '0' with 'ms' as a unit, a dropdown for 'Log Responses' set to 'For all requests', a 'Data' section with a 'Select File' button, and a checkbox labeled 'Keep variable values' which is currently unchecked. The 'Keep variable values' checkbox and its label are circled in red. An information icon (i) is located to the right of the checkbox.

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

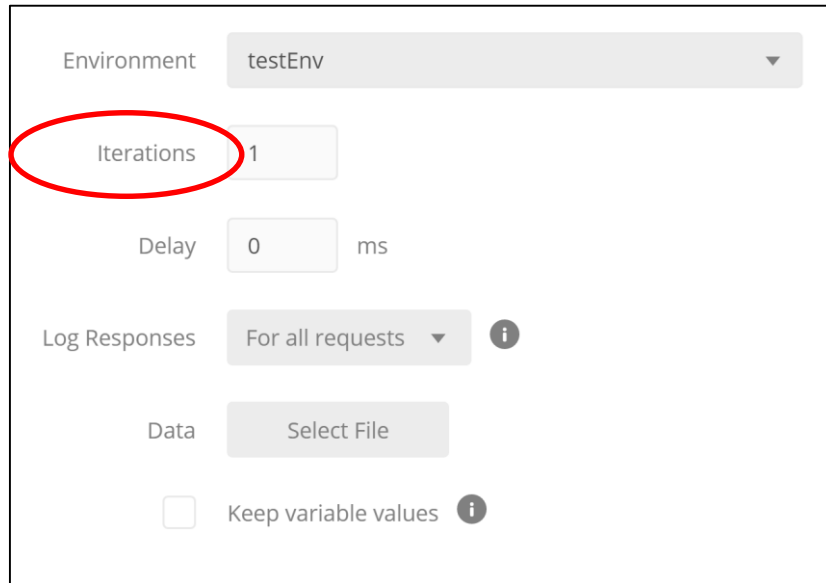


9. Select the “Using Environments” collection and the “testEnv” environment
10. Run the collection and then check the value of the “foo” variable. What do you notice?
11. Start a new Collection run using the same settings as before but this time, tick the “Keep variable values” option
12. What do you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



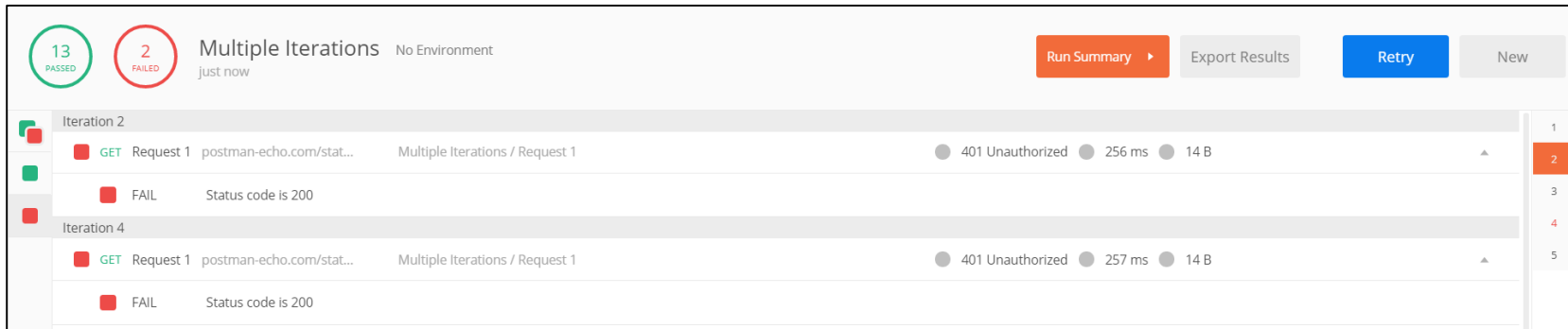
The image shows a settings panel from the Postman application. It contains several configuration options for running a collection:

- Environment:** A dropdown menu currently set to "testEnv".
- Iterations:** A text input field containing the number "1". This field is circled in red.
- Delay:** A text input field containing "0" followed by the unit "ms".
- Log Responses:** A dropdown menu set to "For all requests" with an information icon to its right.
- Data:** A button labeled "Select File".
- Keep variable values:** A checkbox that is currently unchecked, followed by the text "Keep variable values" and an information icon.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

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



The screenshot displays the Postman interface for a "Multiple Iterations" test run. At the top, there are two circular status indicators: a green circle with "13 PASSED" and a red circle with "2 FAILED". The test name "Multiple Iterations" is shown, along with "No Environment" and "just now". Action buttons include "Run Summary", "Export Results", "Retry", and "New".

The results are organized into iterations. "Iteration 2" is expanded, showing two rows of results:

- Row 1: A green square icon, a green "GET" status, "Request 1" to "postman-echo.com/stat...", "Multiple Iterations / Request 1", and metrics "401 Unauthorized", "256 ms", and "14 B".
- Row 2: A red square icon, a red "FAIL" status, and the message "Status code is 200".

"Iteration 4" is partially visible below, showing similar results. On the right side, a vertical list of iteration numbers (1-5) is shown, with "2" highlighted in orange and "4" in 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

[Run Summary ▶](#)[Export Results](#)

◀ Back		1	2	3	4	5
▶	GET Request 1					
▶	FAIL Status code is 401	▶	▶	▶	▶	✓
▶	POST Request 2					✓
	DELETE Request 3					✓

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

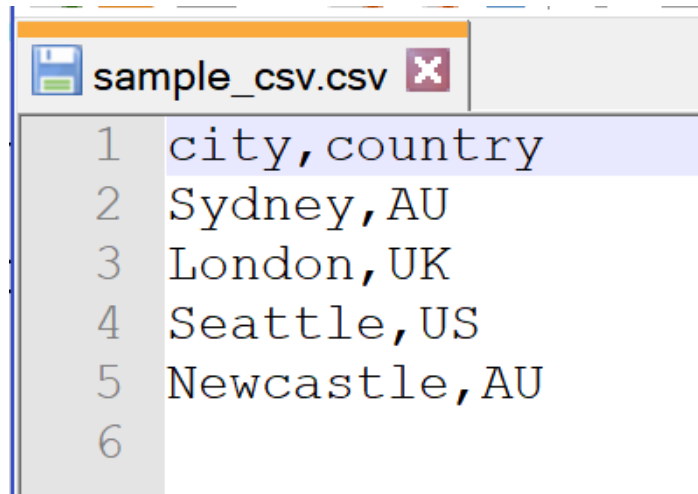
Data variables

- 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



1	city, country
2	Sydney, AU
3	London, UK
4	Seattle, US
5	Newcastle, AU
6	

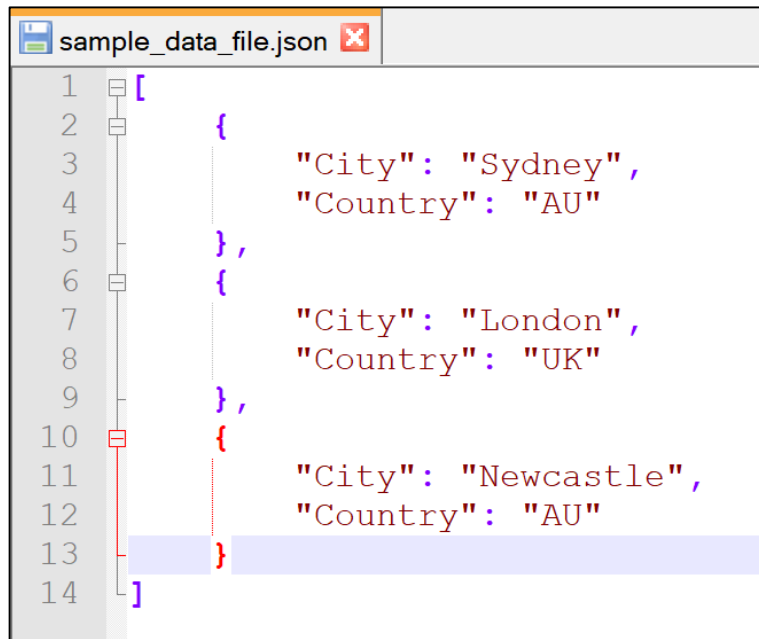
► Get Current Weather

GET ▼

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

JSON file format

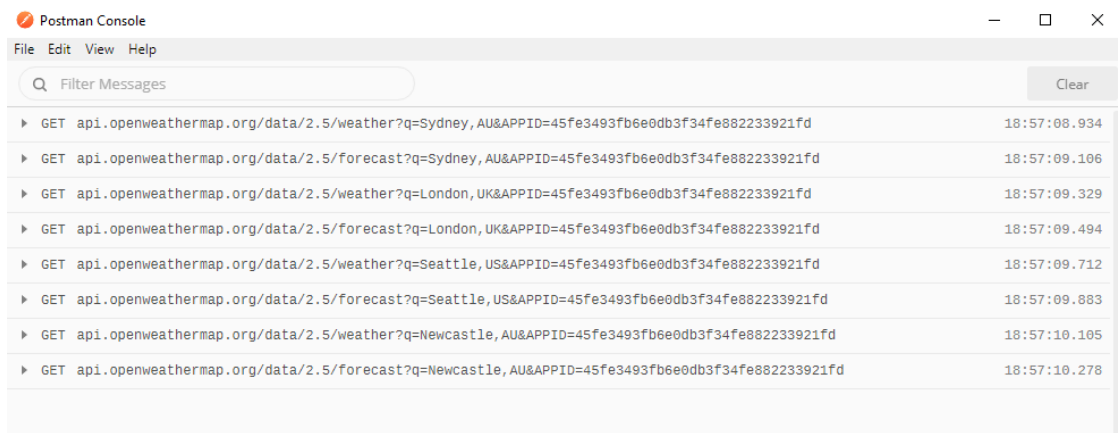
- Array of key value pairs
- Each key represents the name of the variable



```
1  [
2      {
3          "City": "Sydney",
4          "Country": "AU"
5      },
6      {
7          "City": "London",
8          "Country": "UK"
9      },
10     {
11         "City": "Newcastle",
12         "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>
```

```
johnny@LAPTOP-CT7E41JV MINGW64 /c/Postman/c2-Postman-Expert/sample_files
$ newman run OpenWeather_API.postman_collection
newman

OpenWeather API

→ Get Current Weather
GET api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/weather?q={{city}},{{country}}&APPID={{apikey}} [401 Unauthorized, 493B, 425ms]

→ Get 5 day forecast
GET api.openweathermap.org/data/2.5/forecast?q={{city}},{{country}}&APPID={{apikey}} [401 Unauthorized, 494B, 185ms]
```

	executed	failed
iterations	1	0
requests	2	0
test-scripts	0	0
prerequest-scripts	0	0
assertions	0	0
total run duration: 679ms		
total data received: 214B (approx)		
average response time: 305ms		

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

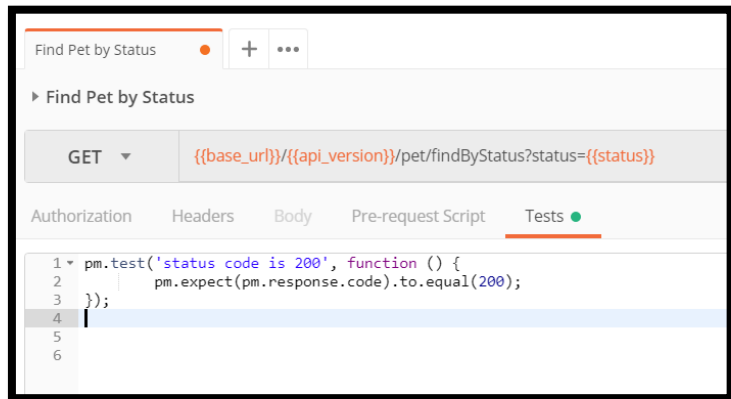
After completing this module, you will be able to:

- Describe the difference between pre-request 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

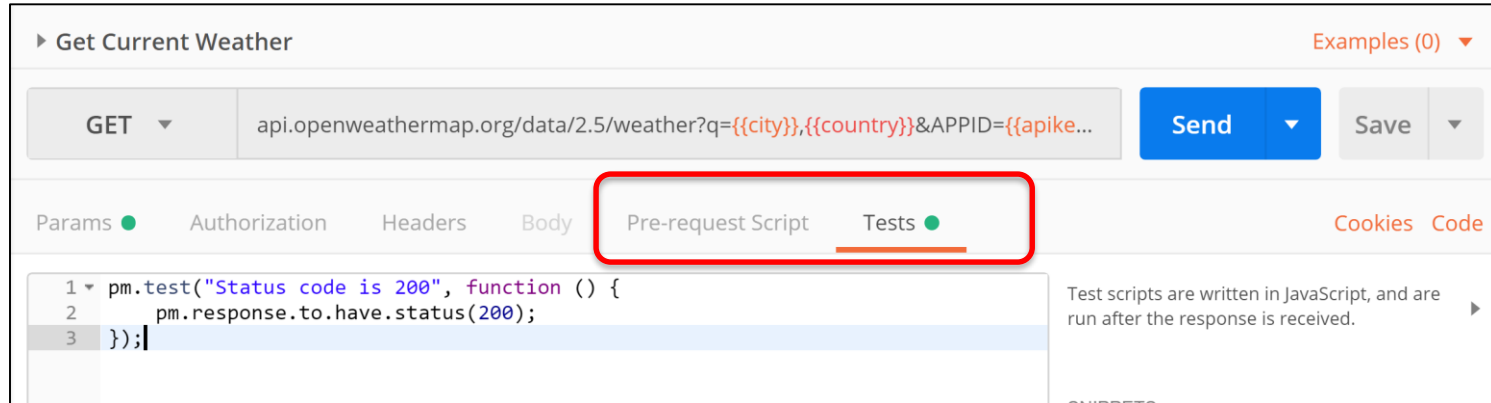
Recall: Postman API Testing

- 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

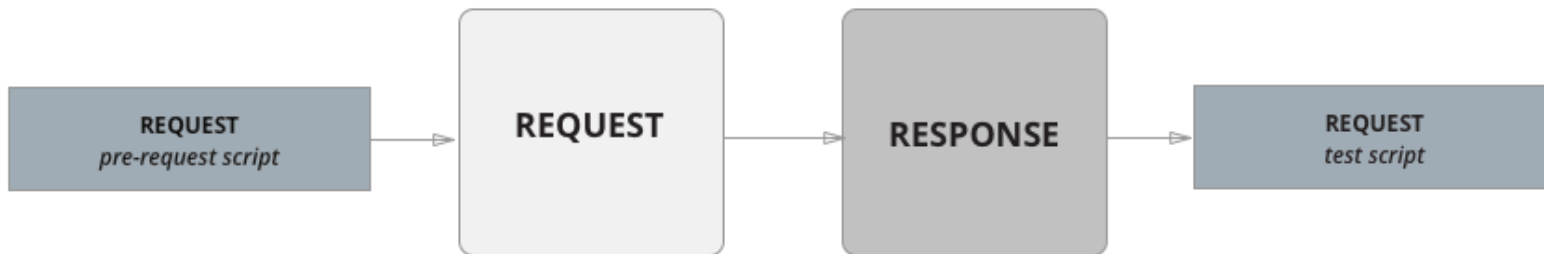
- Pre-request script
 - Executed before the postman request is sent
- Test script
 - Executed after the response has been received



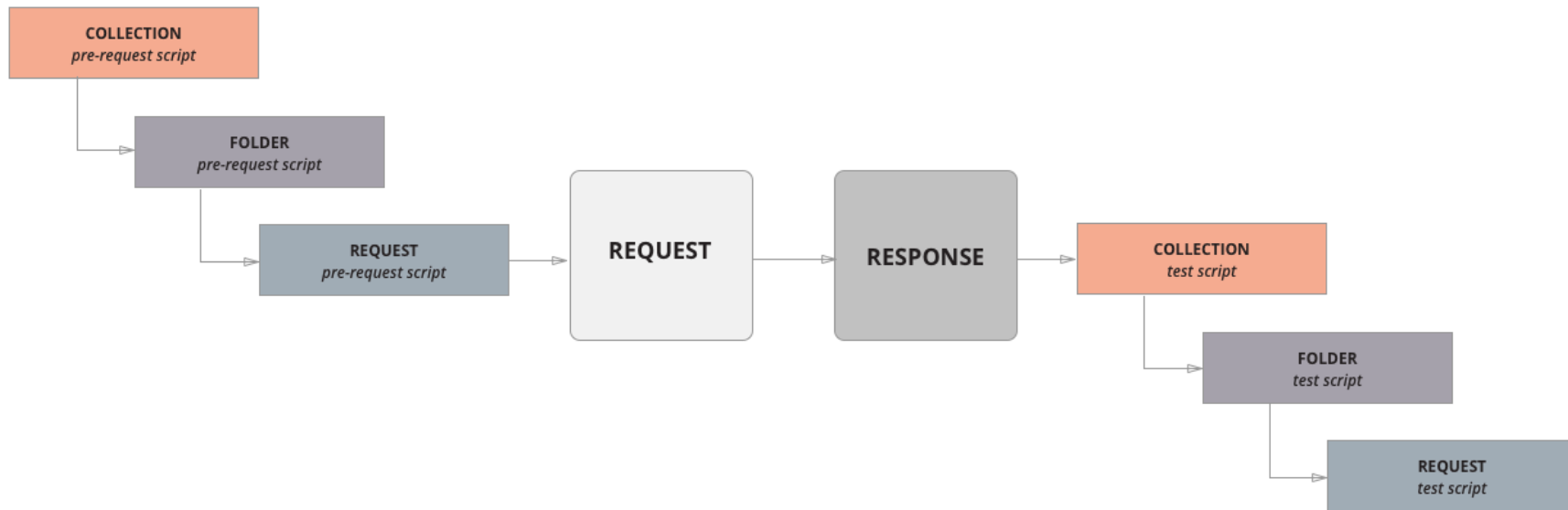
Script execution order

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

```
17  var jsonData = pm.response.json();
18  pm.environment.set("authToken", jsonData.token);
19  console.log(jsonData.token);
20
21  if (jsonData.token === null) {
22      postman.setNextRequest(null);
23  }
24  else {
25      console.log("Token not obtained");
26      postman.setNextRequest("Update Booking (partial)");
27  }
```

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

1. 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”
3. 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:

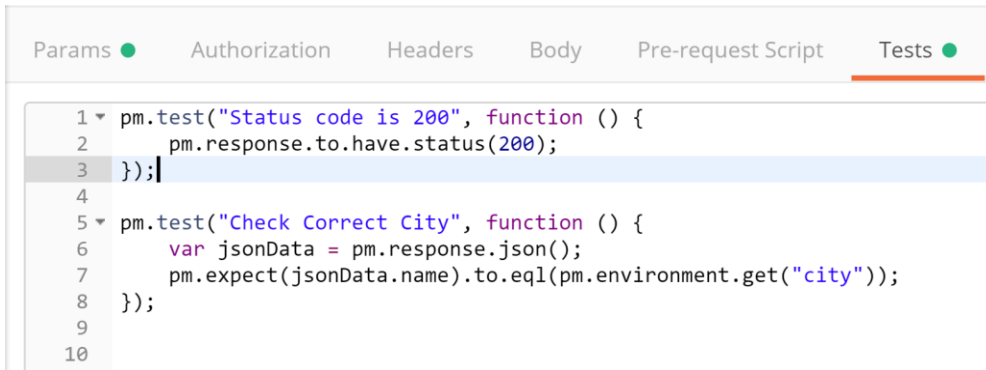
```
const moment = require('moment');  
var previousWeek = moment().subtract(7, 'days').format('YYYY-MM-DD');  
pm.environment.set("date", previousWeek);
```

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

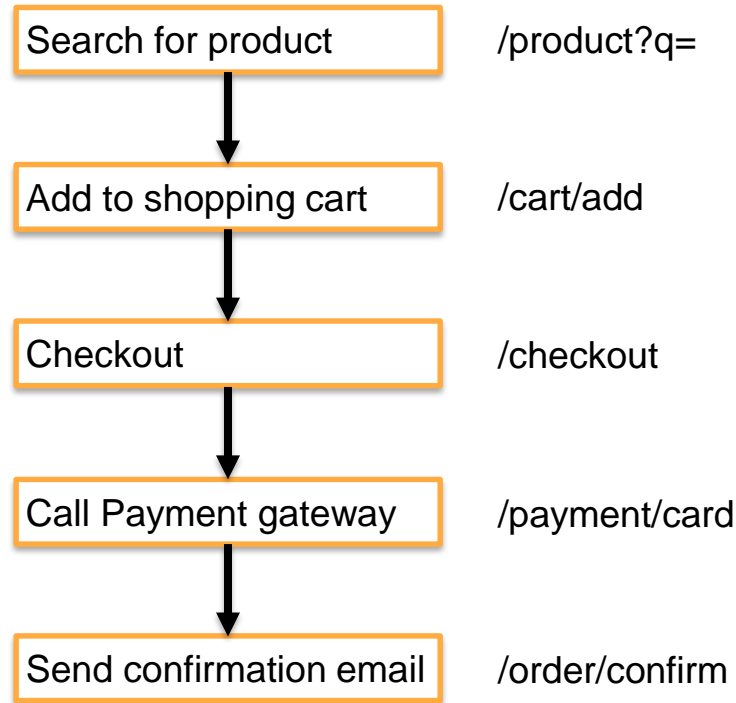


```
1 pm.test("Status code is 200", function () {
2     pm.response.to.have.status(200);
3 });
4
5 pm.test("Check Correct City", function () {
6     var jsonData = pm.response.json();
7     pm.expect(jsonData.name).to.eql(pm.environment.get("city"));
8 });
9
10
```

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}}

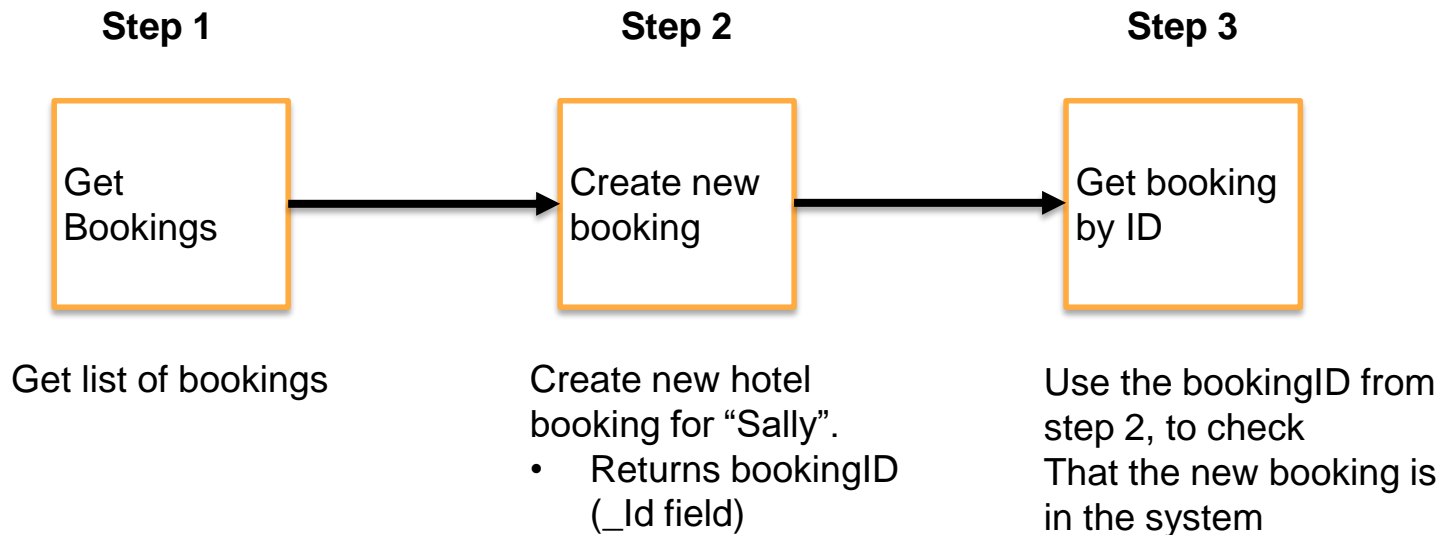
Delete booking

/booking/{{id}}

Get auth token

/auth

Building our example workflow (part 1)



EX2.2 – Build Example Workflow (part 1)

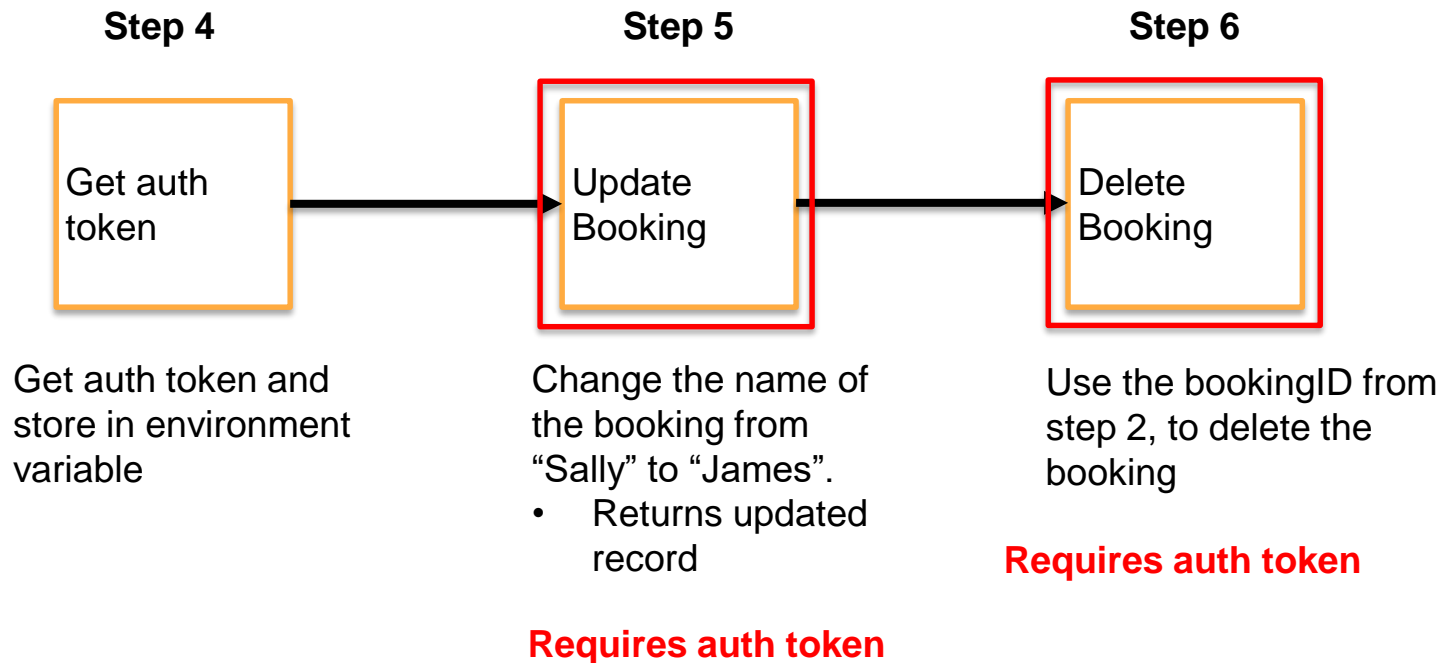
1. Open the **Restful Booker** collection
2. Create an environment call **Restful Booker** and define a variable called “url”. Your instructor will provide the URL value.
3. In the same environment, define a variable called “bookingID”. Do not set a value
4. Open the **Create new booking** request inside 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
9. 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)



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}}

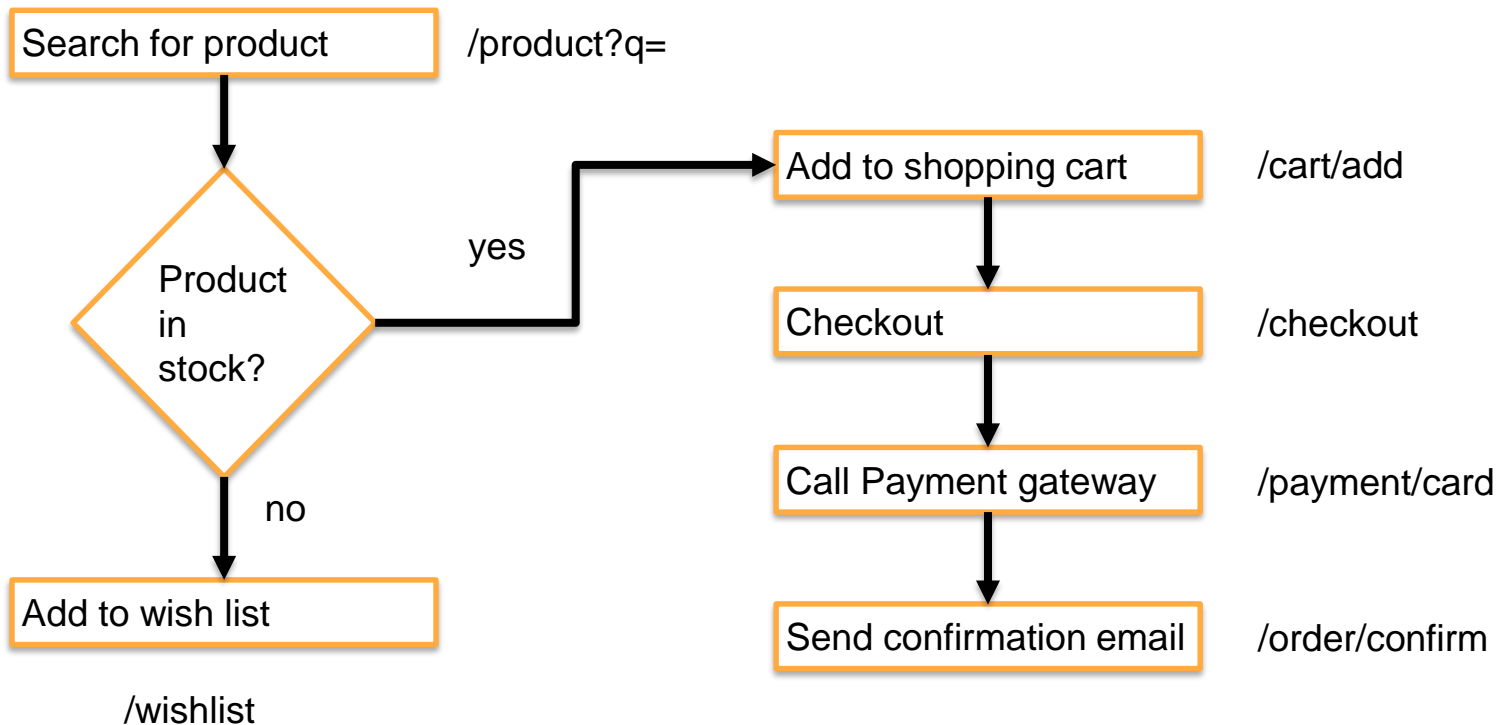
EX2.4 – Run workflow

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

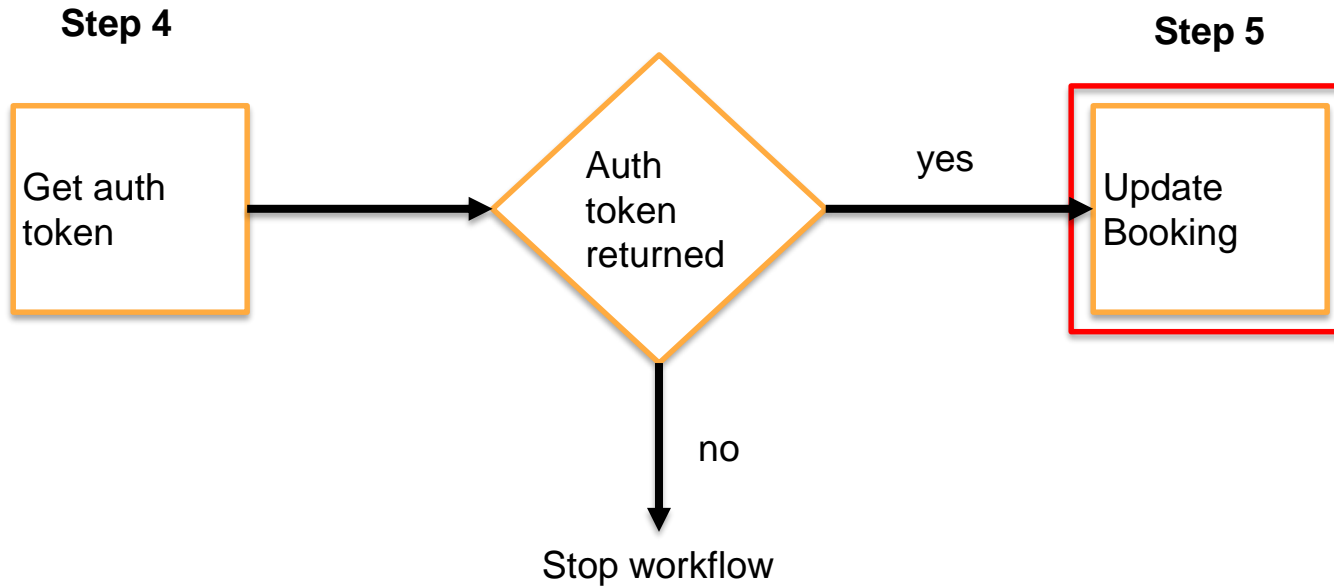


Implementing conditional logic

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

```
17  var jsonData = pm.response.json();
18  pm.environment.set("authToken", jsonData.token);
19  console.log(jsonData.token);
20
21  if (jsonData.token === null) {
22      postman.setNextRequest(null);
23  }
24  else {
25      console.log("Token not obtained");
26      postman.setNextRequest("Update Booking (partial)");
27  }
```

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)");  
}
```

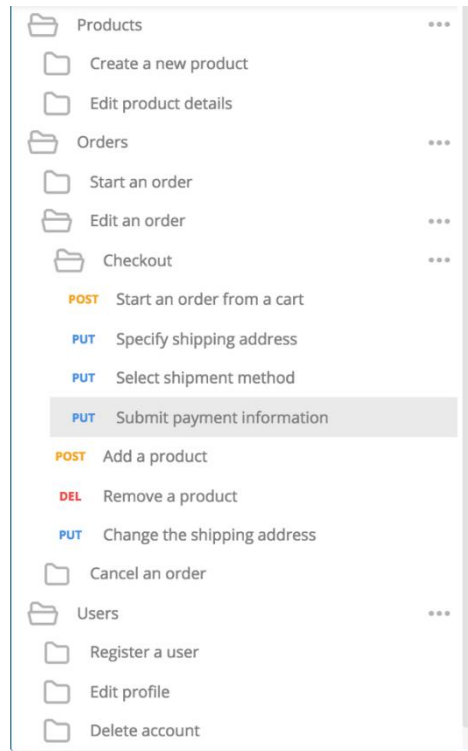
2. Change the value of the password variable to anything and run the collection.
3. What do you observe?

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_api_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

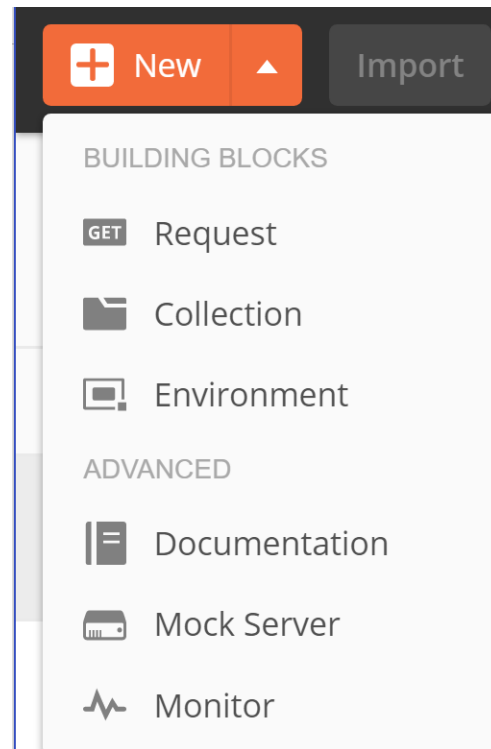
Creating Private Documentation

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

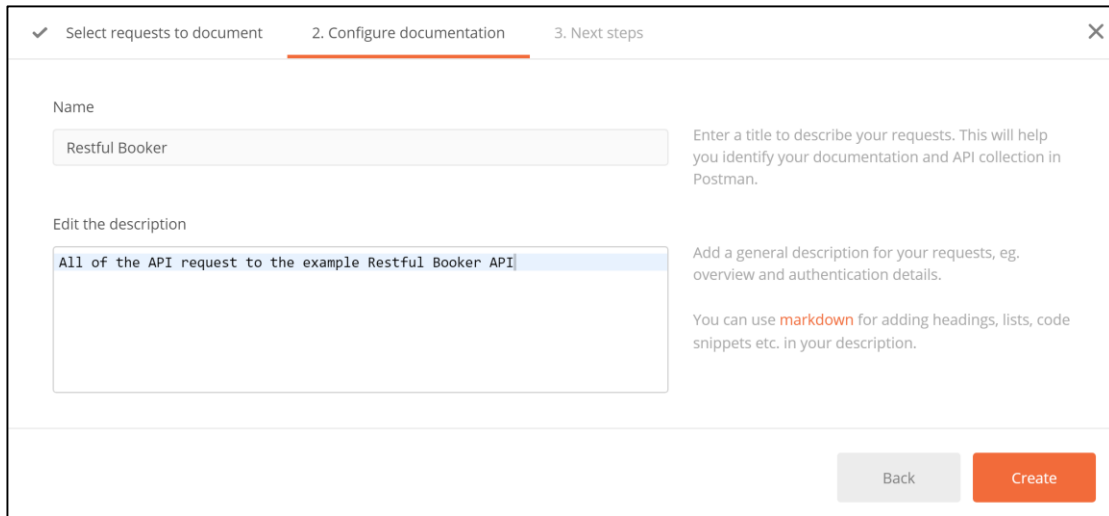
Creating Documentation

- 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”



The screenshot shows the '2. Configure documentation' step in a three-step process. The first step is 'Select requests to document' and the third is 'Next steps'. The current step has a red underline. It contains two input fields: 'Name' with the value 'Restful Booker' and 'Edit the description' with the value 'All of the API request to the example Restful Booker API'. To the right of these fields are instructions: 'Enter a title to describe your requests. This will help you identify your documentation and API collection in Postman.' and 'Add a general description for your requests, eg. overview and authentication details. You can use **markdown** for adding headings, lists, code snippets etc. in your description.' At the bottom right are 'Back' and 'Create' buttons.

✓ Select requests to document 2. Configure documentation 3. Next steps ✕

Name

Restful Booker

Edit the description

All of the API request to the example Restful Booker API

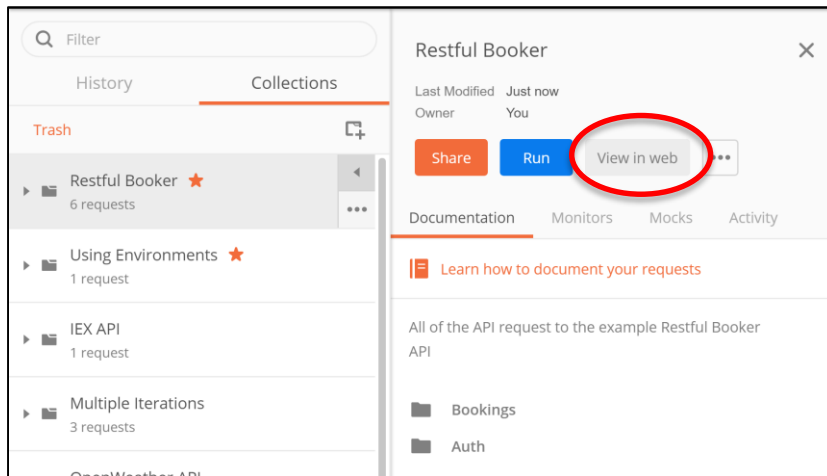
Enter a title to describe your requests. This will help you identify your documentation and API collection in Postman.

Add a general description for your requests, eg. overview and authentication details. You can use **markdown** for adding headings, lists, code snippets etc. in your description.

Back Create

Viewing private documentation

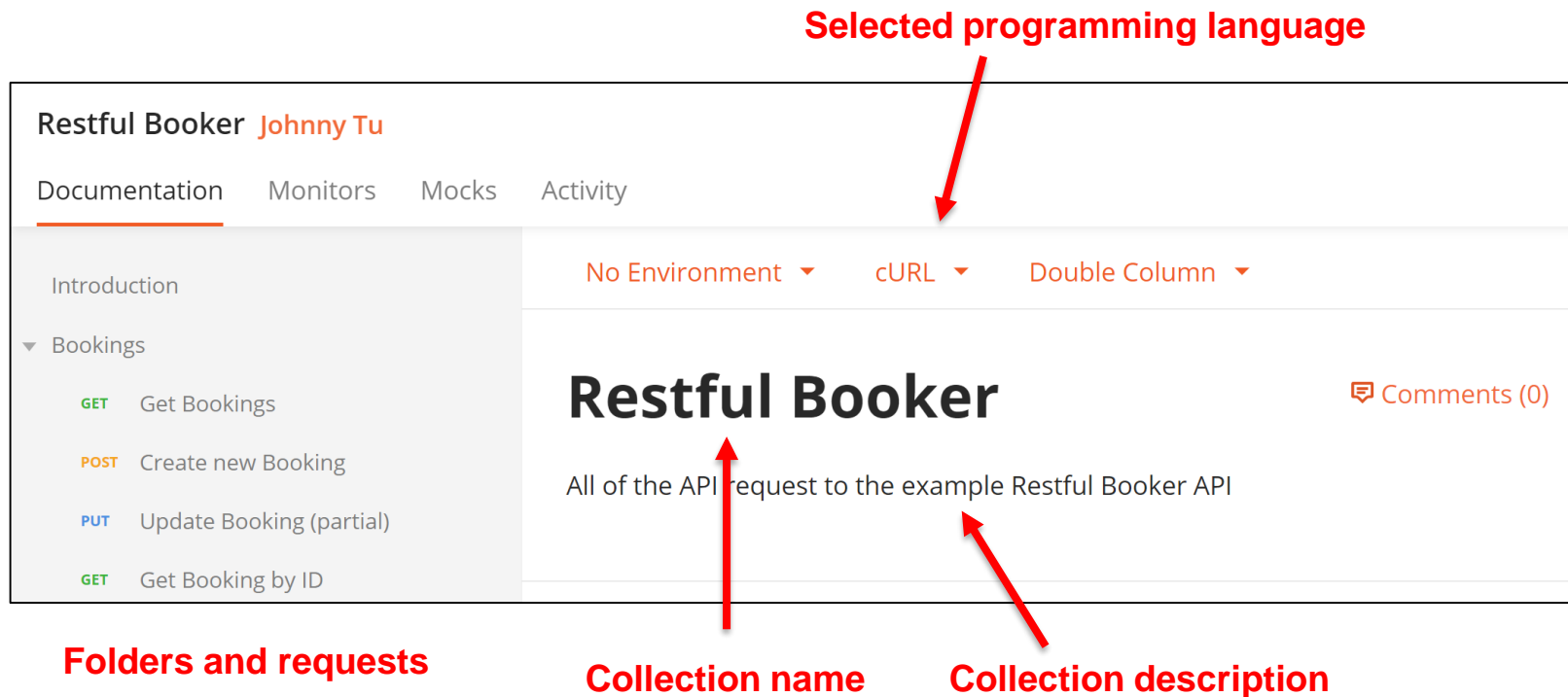
- Click the “Play” button of a collection
- Click “View in web”
- If there’s no existing documentation on the collection, it will be created
- Visible only to author of collection unless the collection is shared in a team workspace



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 code snippets in various programming languages

Example Documentation page



The screenshot shows the Postman API documentation interface for a collection named 'Restful Booker' by 'Johnny Tu'. The interface includes a sidebar with a 'Bookings' folder containing four requests: 'Get Bookings' (GET), 'Create new Booking' (POST), 'Update Booking (partial)' (PUT), and 'Get Booking by ID' (GET). The main content area displays the collection name 'Restful Booker' and a description: 'All of the API request to the example Restful Booker API'. Annotations with red arrows point to specific elements: 'Selected programming language' points to the 'cURL' dropdown menu; 'Folders and requests' points to the 'Bookings' folder in the sidebar; 'Collection name' points to the 'Restful Booker' title; and 'Collection description' points to the text 'All of the API request to the example Restful Booker API'.

Restful Booker Johnny Tu

Documentation Monitors Mocks Activity

Introduction

▼ Bookings

- GET Get Bookings
- POST Create new Booking
- PUT Update Booking (partial)
- GET Get Booking by ID

No Environment ▼ cURL ▼ Double Column ▼

Restful Booker

Comments (0)

All of the API request to the example Restful Booker API

Selected programming language

Folders and requests

Collection name

Collection description

Documented Requests

Folder description →

Request name →

Request description →

Restful Booker

Comments (0)

All of the API request to the example Restful Booker API

Bookings

Folder name

All bookings requests

GET Get Bookings

{{url}}/booking

Get a list of all bookings

Code snippet

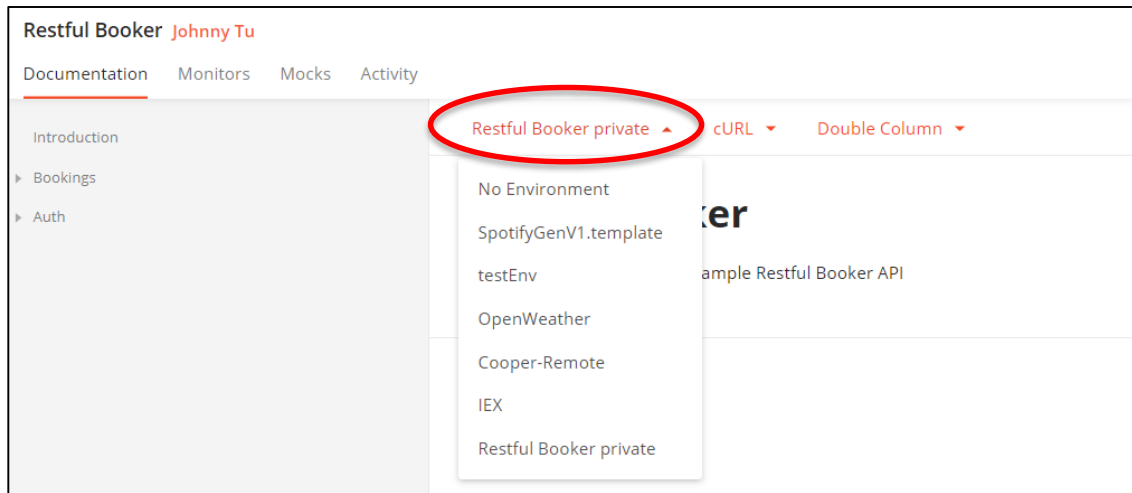
Example Request

Get Bookings

```
curl --request GET \  
--url 'http://{{url}}/booking'
```


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

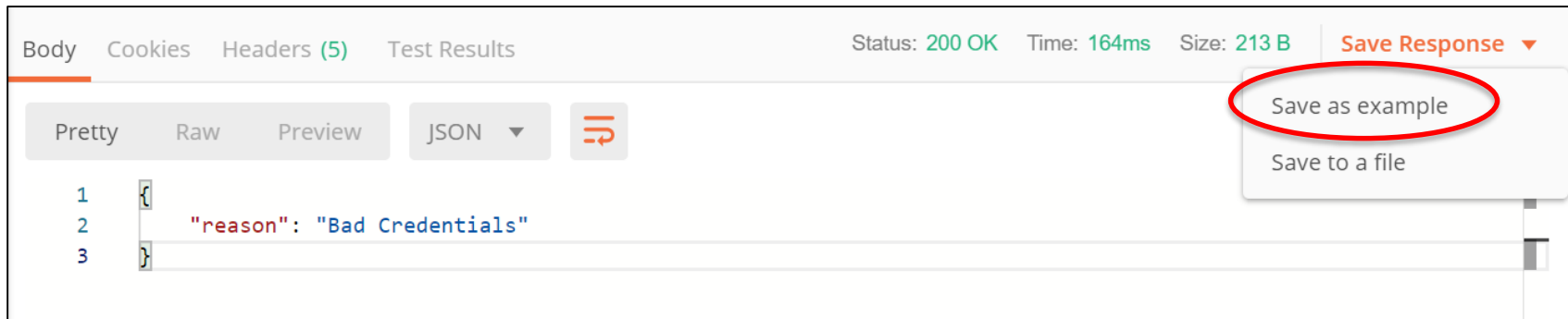


EX3.1 – Generate private documentation

1. 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

POST Get Auth Token

{{url}}/auth

Get auth token

Headers

Content-Type	application/json
--------------	------------------

Body raw (application/json)

```
{
  "username": "admin",
  "password": "password123"
}
```

Example Request

Get Auth Token - Bad credentials ▾

```
curl --request POST \
  --url 'http://{{url}}/auth' \
  --header 'Content-Type: application/json' \
  --data '{
    "username": "admin",
    "password": "password"
  }'
```

Example Response 200 OK

```
{
  "reason": "Bad credentials"
}
```

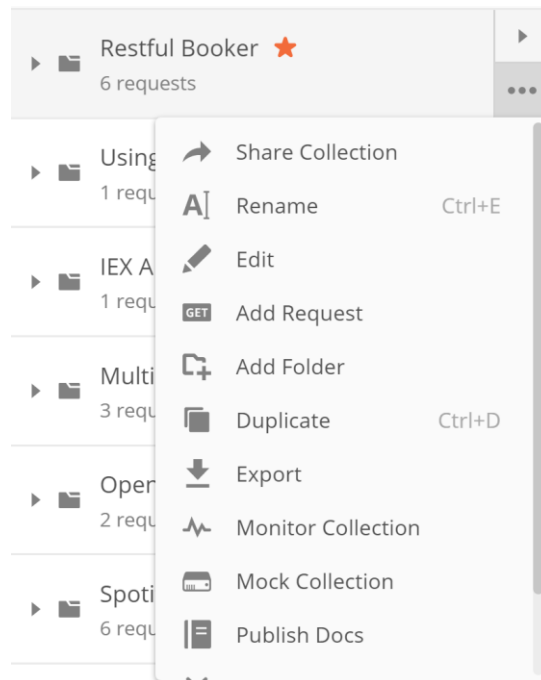
EX3.2 – Save example responses

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

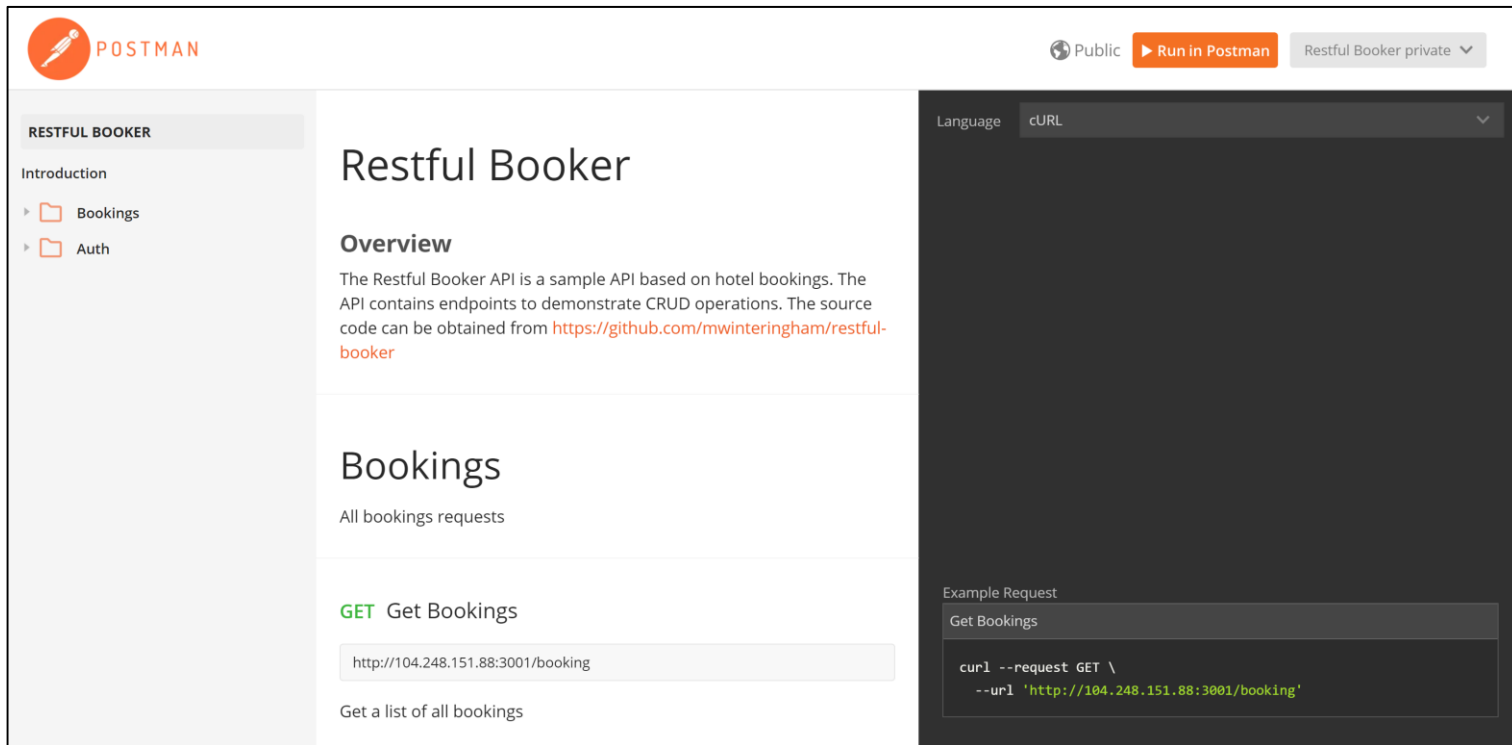
- Click the “Publish” button on the private documentation page
- Click “Publish Docs” from collection dropdown
- Must be collection author or have write permissions to publish the docs
- Changes made in the collection will be automatically reflected in the published docs



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



The screenshot shows the Postman RESTful Booker API documentation page. The interface includes a sidebar with the Postman logo and a navigation menu for 'RESTFUL BOOKER' with sections for 'Introduction', 'Bookings', and 'Auth'. The main content area is titled 'Restful Booker' and contains an 'Overview' section describing the API as a sample based on hotel bookings, with a link to the GitHub repository. Below this is a 'Bookings' section with the subtitle 'All bookings requests'. The 'GET Get Bookings' endpoint is highlighted, showing the URL 'http://104.248.151.88:3001/booking' and the description 'Get a list of all bookings'. On the right, a 'Language' dropdown is set to 'cURL', and an 'Example Request' section shows the cURL command: `curl --request GET \ --url 'http://104.248.151.88:3001/booking'`. At the top right, there are buttons for 'Public', 'Run in Postman', and a dropdown for 'Restful Booker private'.

POSTMAN

Public Run in Postman Restful Booker private

RESTFUL BOOKER

Introduction

- Bookings
- Auth

Restful Booker

Overview

The Restful Booker API is a sample API based on hotel bookings. The API contains endpoints to demonstrate CRUD operations. The source code can be obtained from <https://github.com/mwinteringham/restful-booker>

Bookings

All bookings requests

GET Get Bookings

`http://104.248.151.88:3001/booking`

Get a list of all bookings

Language cURL

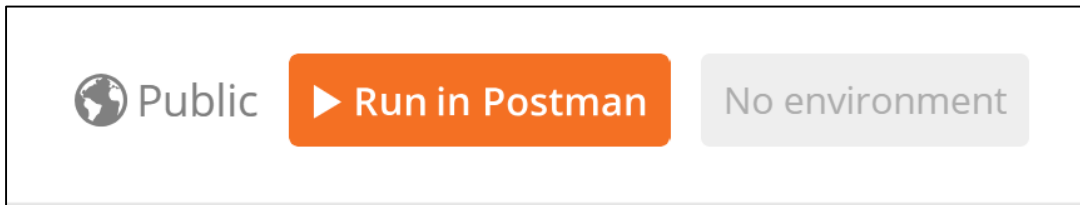
Example Request

Get Bookings


```
curl --request GET \
  --url 'http://104.248.151.88:3001/booking'
```

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

1. On your web browser, go to the private documentation view you created in Exercise 3.1
2. 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

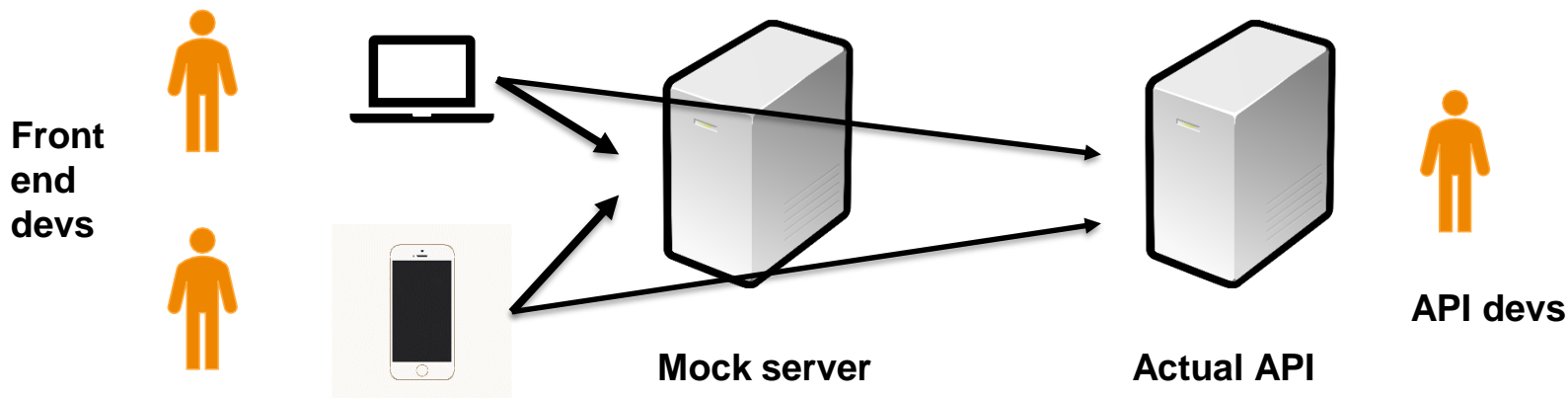
After completing this module, you will be able to:

- 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

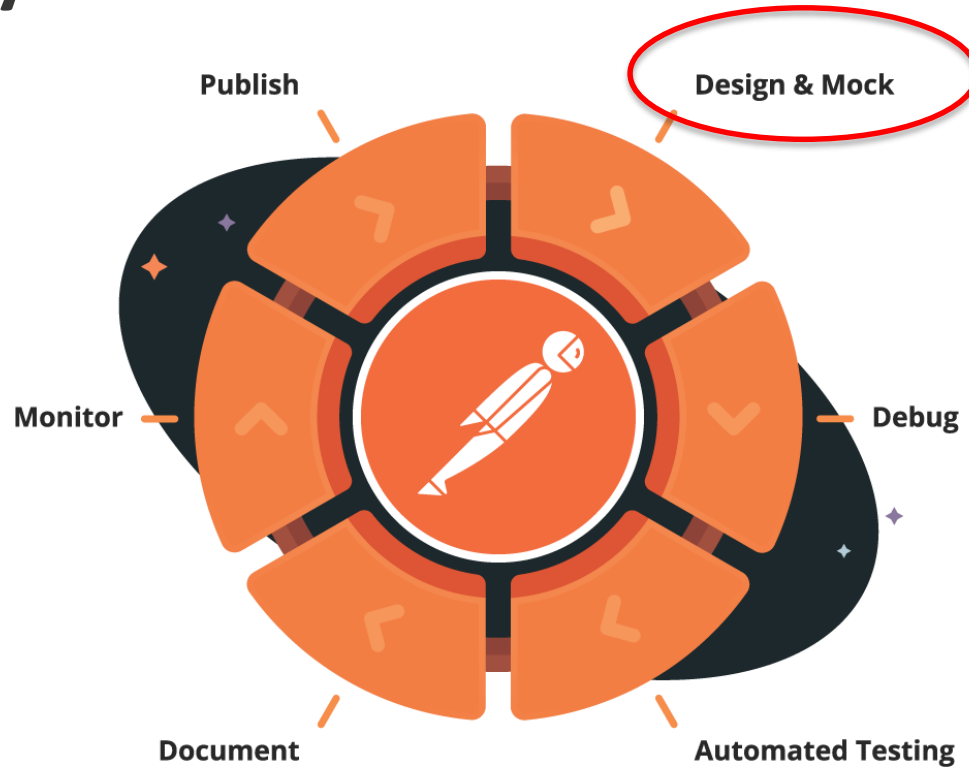
Intro to Mock servers

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

1. Select requests to mock

2. Configure mock server

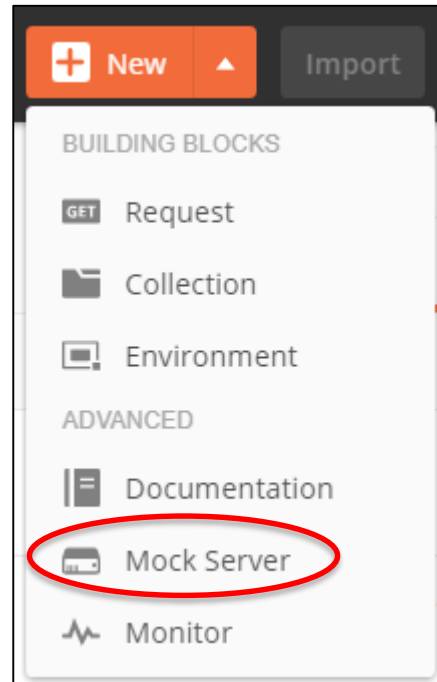
3. Next steps

Create a new API

Use collection from this workspace

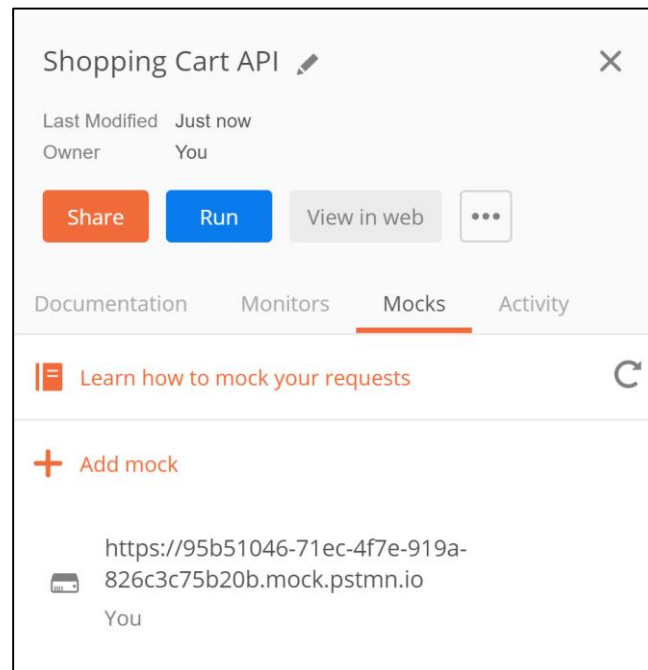
Enter the requests and their expected responses below. Add headers to these requests by clicking on the (•••) icon.

Method	Request Path	Response Code	Response Body	•••
GET	{{url}}/ users	200	This is a list of users	
GET	{{url}}/ products	200	This is our list of products	×
GET	{{url}}/ Path	200	Response Body	



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	

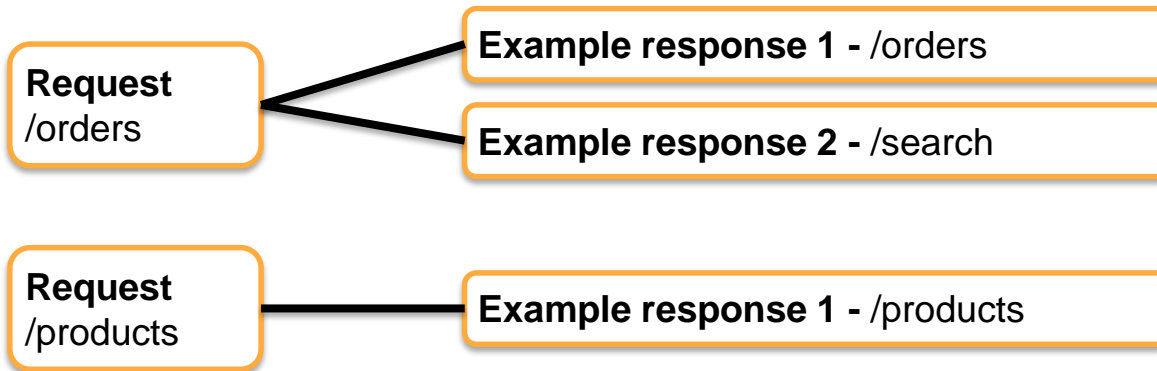
EX4.1 – (cont'd)

4. On the “Name” field, type “Shopping Cart API”
5. Do not select an environment and leave the “Make this mock server private” checkbox 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 send 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:

Examples (3) ▼

NAME

order search

EXAMPLE REQUEST

GET ▼

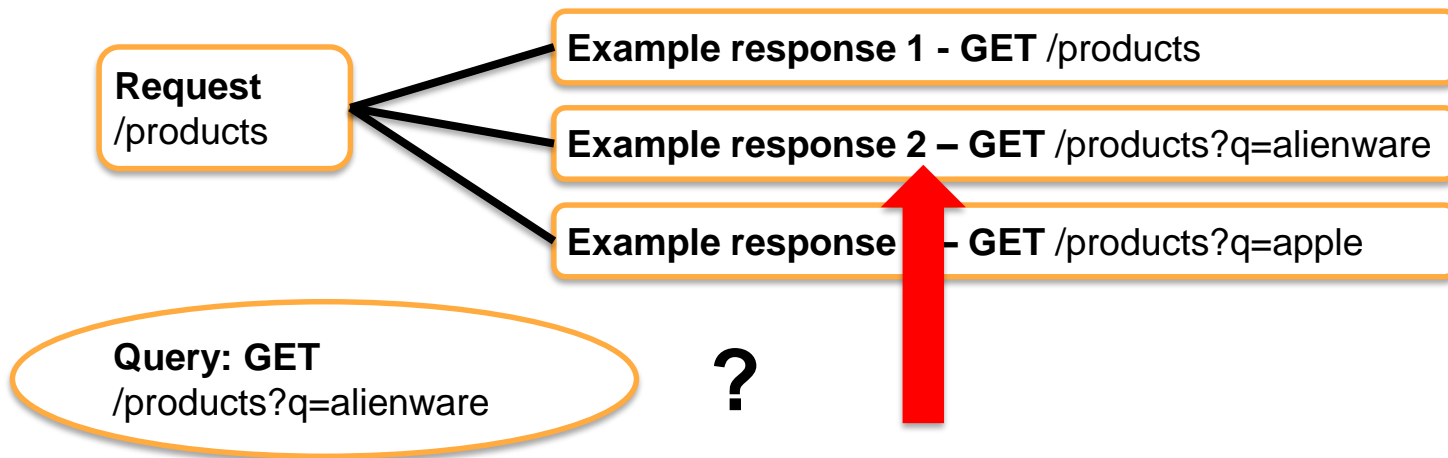
{{url}}/search

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

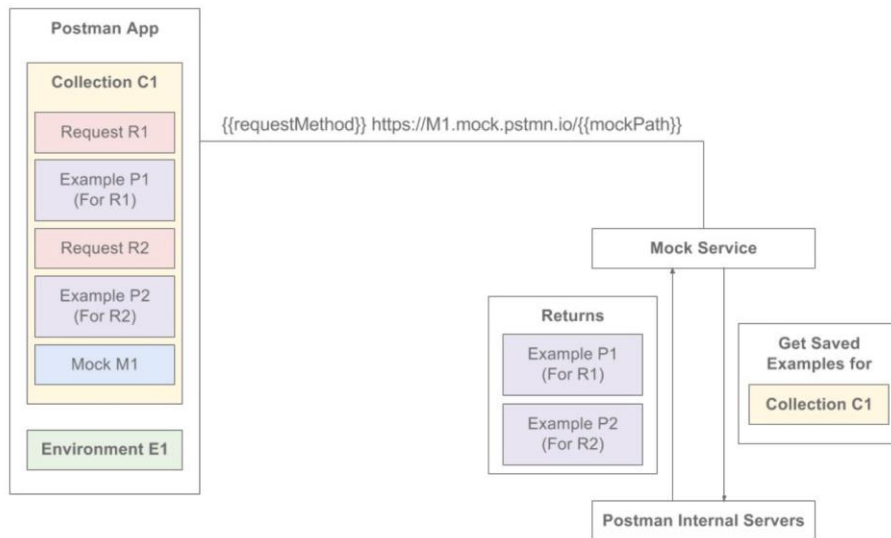
Using query parameters

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

Matching algorithm – (cont'd)

2. HTTP method

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

3. 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:

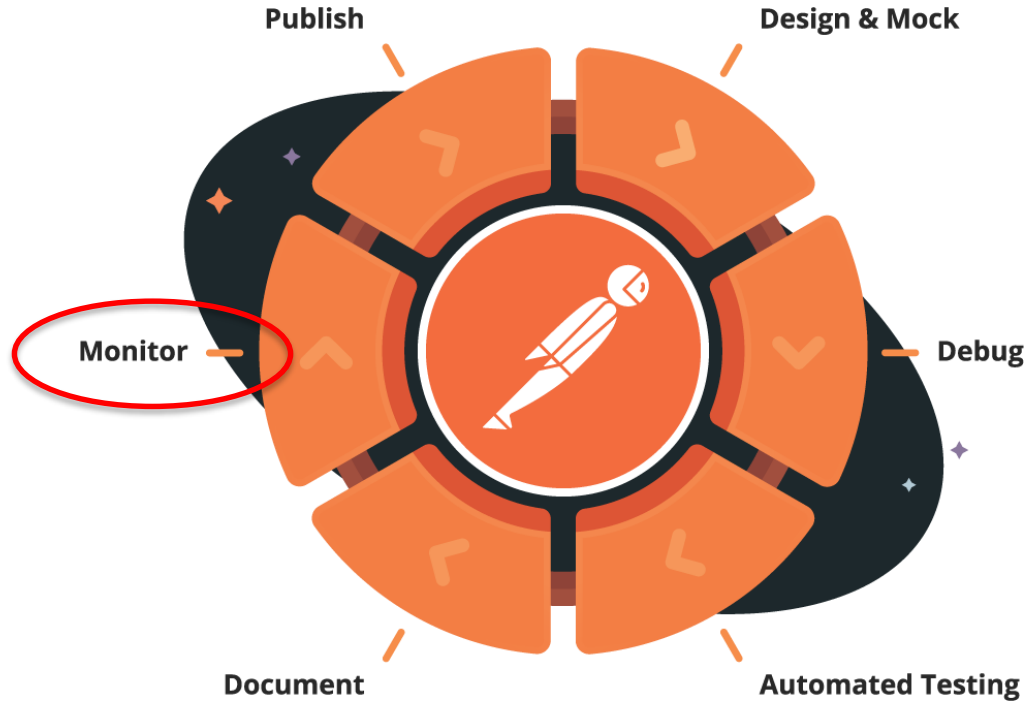
- Describe the process of monitoring a collection
- Setup and configure a monitor for a collection

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

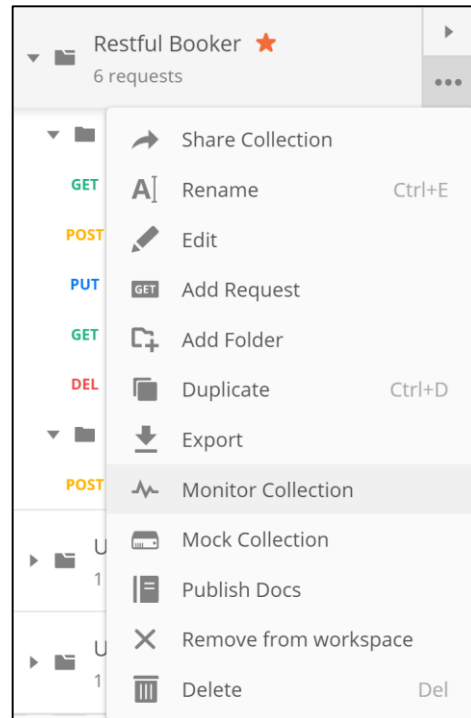
Pricing

- 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

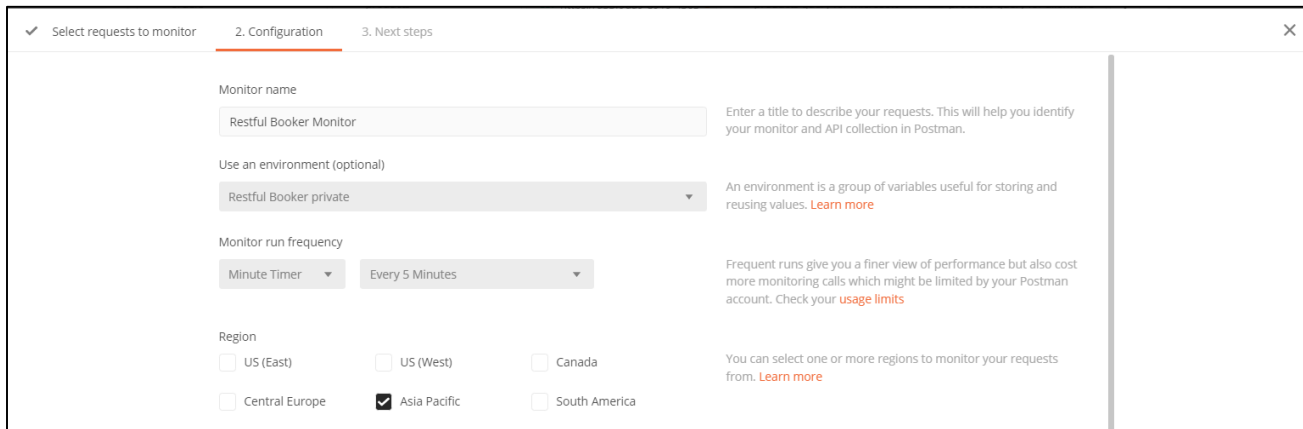
Create a monitor

- 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



The screenshot shows the '2. Configuration' step of the 'Create a monitor' process in Postman. The window has a title bar with a close button (X) and three tabs: 'Select requests to monitor' (checked), '2. Configuration' (active), and '3. Next steps'. The configuration area includes:

- Monitor name:** A text input field containing 'Restful Booker Monitor'. To the right, a tooltip says: 'Enter a title to describe your requests. This will help you identify your monitor and API collection in Postman.'
- Use an environment (optional):** A dropdown menu showing 'Restful Booker private'. To the right, a tooltip says: 'An environment is a group of variables useful for storing and reusing values. [Learn more](#)'
- Monitor run frequency:** Two dropdown menus. The first is 'Minute Timer' and the second is 'Every 5 Minutes'. To the right, a tooltip says: 'Frequent runs give you a finer view of performance but also cost more monitoring calls which might be limited by your Postman account. Check your [usage limits](#)'
- Region:** A group of checkboxes for 'US (East)', 'US (West)', 'Canada', 'Central Europe', 'Asia Pacific' (checked), and 'South America'. To the right, a tooltip says: 'You can select one or more regions to monitor your requests from. [Learn more](#)'

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

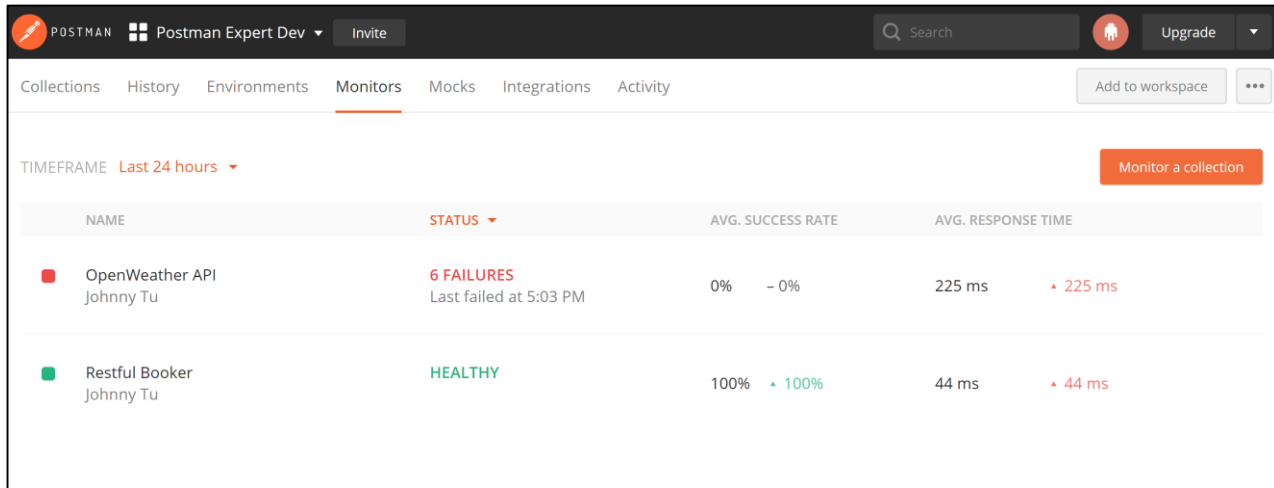
EX5.1 – Create a monitor

1. 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)

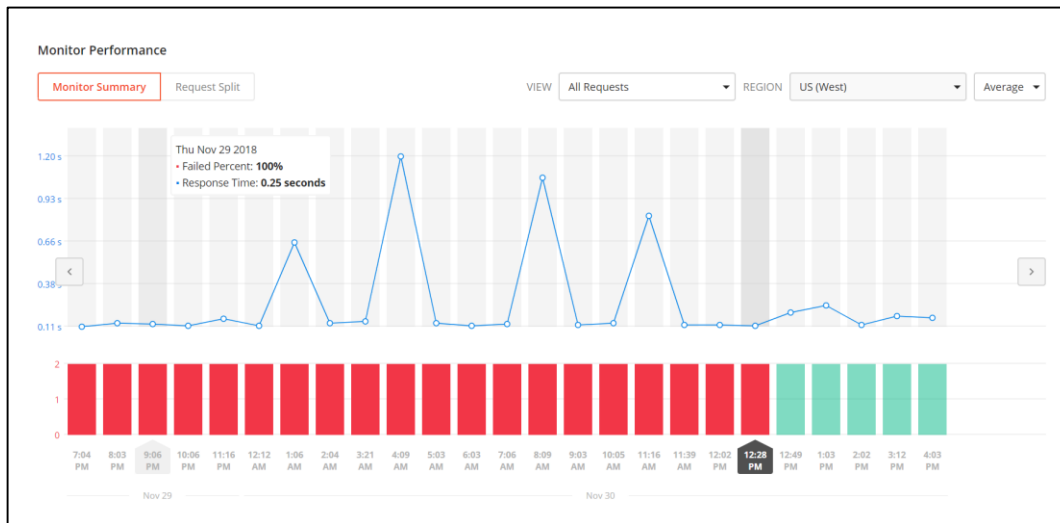


The screenshot shows the Postman web interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with the Postman logo, user name 'Postman Expert Dev', and an 'Invite' button. A search bar and an 'Upgrade' button are on the right. Below the navigation bar, a tabbed interface shows 'Collections', 'History', 'Environments', 'Monitors' (selected), 'Mocks', 'Integrations', and 'Activity'. A 'TIMEFRAME' dropdown is set to 'Last 24 hours'. A 'Monitor a collection' button is in the top right of the main area. The main content is a table with columns: NAME, STATUS, AVG. SUCCESS RATE, and AVG. RESPONSE TIME. Two monitors are listed: 'OpenWeather API' by 'Johnny Tu' with a status of '6 FAILURES' and 'Restful Booker' by 'Johnny Tu' with a status of 'HEALTHY'.

NAME	STATUS	AVG. SUCCESS RATE	AVG. RESPONSE TIME
 OpenWeather API Johnny Tu	6 FAILURES Last failed at 5:03 PM	0% - 0%	225 ms ▲ 225 ms
 Restful Booker Johnny Tu	HEALTHY	100% ▲ 100%	44 ms ▲ 44 ms

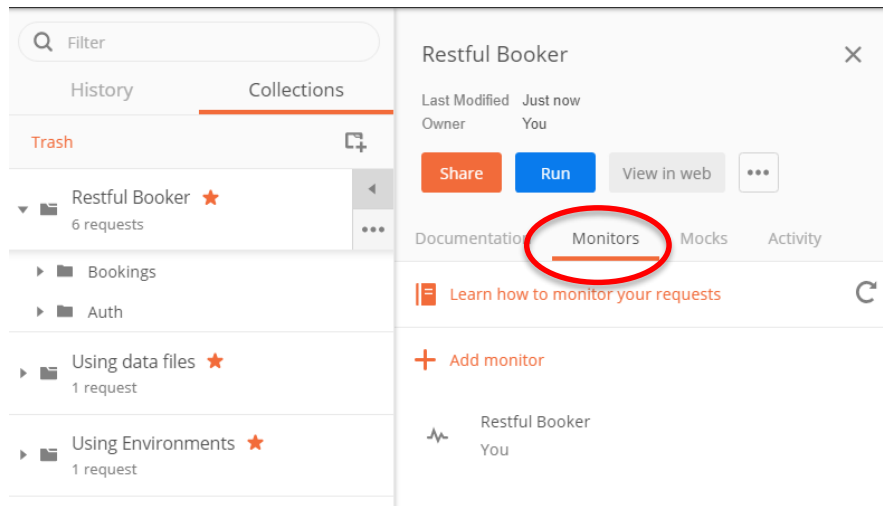
Monitor details page

- 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



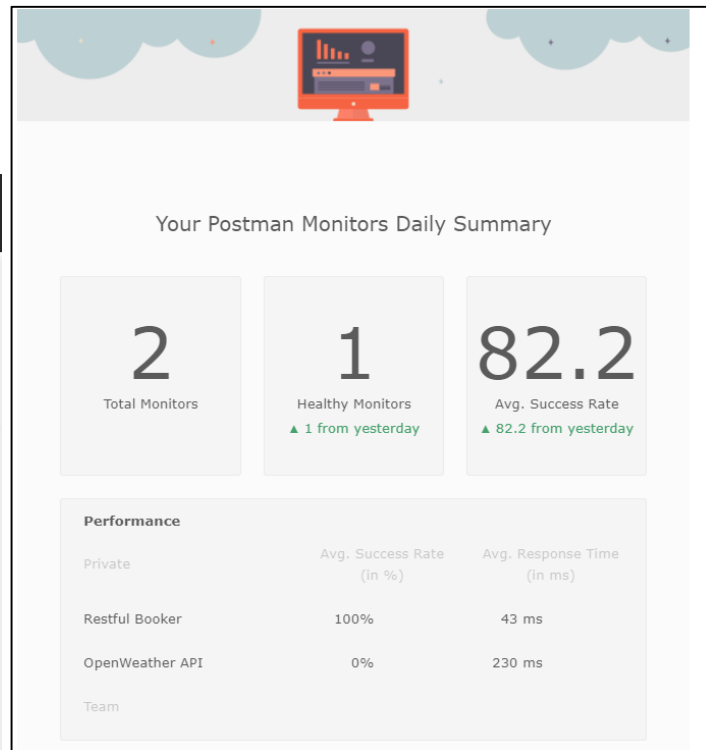
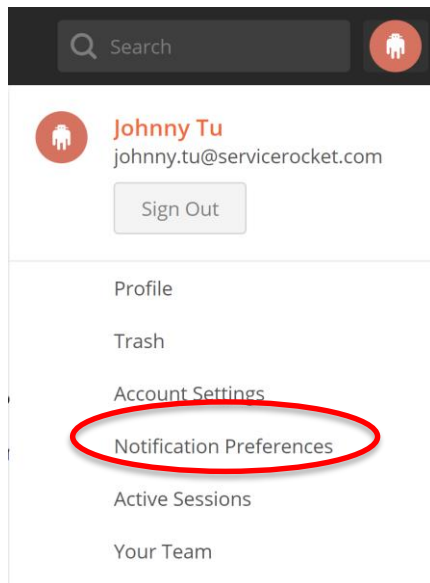
Viewing your monitor results

- 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

1. 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!**