

# Lecture 13. Cookies in Nodejs

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Cookies in Node.js are used to store data on the client side, typically to maintain sessions or save small bits of data like user tokens, preferences, etc.

## Using cookies in Node.js with Express

To work with cookies, we commonly use the **cookie-parser** middleware.

### Step 1: Install cookie-parser

bash

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```
npm install cookie-parser
```

### Step 2: Setup in server.js

js

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```
const express = require('express');
const cookieParser = require('cookie-parser');
const app = express();
// Middleware
app.use(cookieParser());
```

### Step 3: Set a Cookie

js

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```
app.get('/set-cookie', (req, res) => {
  res.cookie('username', 'Krishan', {
    maxAge: 24 * 60 * 60 * 1000, // 1 day
    httpOnly: true, // not accessible from client-side JavaScript
  });
  res.send('Cookie has been set!');
});
```

### Step 4: Read a Cookie

js

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```
app.get('/get-cookie', (req, res) => {
  const username = req.cookies.username;
  res.send(`Cookie retrieved: ${username}`);
});
```

### Step 5: Clear/Delete a Cookie

js

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```
app.get('/clear-cookie', (req, res) => {
```

```
res.clearCookie('username');  
res.send('Cookie cleared!');  
});
```



## **Extra: Setting JWT Token in Cookie (Common Use Case)**

In your /login route, instead of just sending token in response:

js

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```
res.cookie('token', token, {  
  httpOnly: true,  
  maxAge: 86400000, // 1 day  
});  
res.json({ msg: 'Login successful' });
```

Then on protected routes, you can read the token from req.cookies.token.