

Setting Up Playwright for API Automation

Install Playwright

Run the following command in your project directory:

```
npm init playwright@latest
```

This sets up the Playwright with necessary dependencies.

Making API Requests in Playwright

Basic GET Request

```
import { test, expect } from '@playwright/test';

test('GET Request Example', async ({ request }) => {
  const response = await request.get('https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts/1');

  // Validate response status
  expect(response.status()).toBe(200);

  // Validate JSON response body
  const responseBody = await response.json();
  console.log(responseBody);
  expect(responseBody.id).toBe(1);
});
```

POST Request with JSON Body

```
test('POST Request Example', async ({ request }) => {
  const response = await request.post('https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts', {
    data: {
      title: 'Playwright API Test',
      body: 'Testing API automation with Playwright',
      userId: 1
    }
  });

  expect(response.status()).toBe(201);

  const responseBody = await response.json();
  console.log(responseBody);
  expect(responseBody.title).toBe('Playwright API Test');
});
```

Handling Authentication in API Tests

Using Bearer Token Authentication

```
const token = "your_access_token";

test('Authenticated API Request', async ({ request }) => {
  const response = await request.get('https://api.example.com/user/profile', {
    headers: {
      'Authorization': `Bearer ${token}`
    }
  });

  expect(response.status()).toBe(200);
});
```

Storing Authentication State for Reuse

```
test('Login and Store Token', async ({ request }) => {
  const response = await request.post('https://api.example.com/login', {
    data: { username: 'testuser', password: 'password123' }
  });

  expect(response.status()).toBe(200);
  const responseBody = await response.json();

  // Save token for further API calls
  const authToken = responseBody.token;
});
```

PUT & DELETE Requests in Playwright

PUT Request (Updating Data)

```
test('PUT Request Example', async ({ request }) => {
  const response = await request.put('https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts/1',
    data: {
      title: 'Updated Title',
      body: 'Updated Content'
    }
  );

  expect(response.status()).toBe(200);
});
```

DELETE Request (Deleting Data)

```
test('DELETE Request Example', async ({ request }) => {
  const response = await request.delete('https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts/1');

  expect(response.status()).toBe(200);
});
```

Validating API Response with Playwright Assertions

```
test('Validate Response JSON Schema', async ({ request }) => {
  const response = await request.get('https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts/1');

  expect(response.status()).toBe(200);

  const responseBody = await response.json();

  expect(responseBody).toHaveProperty('id');
  expect(responseBody).toHaveProperty('title');
  expect(responseBody).toHaveProperty('body');
});
```



Running API Tests in Playwright

Run all Playwright tests using:

```
npx playwright test
```

Run only API tests:

```
npx playwright test tests/api
```

Run tests in headed mode (useful for debugging):

```
npx playwright test --headed
```

Run a single test file:

```
npx playwright test tests/api/auth.spec.ts
```

Playwright API Testing with CI/CD Integration

Integrate Playwright API tests with **GitHub Actions**, **Jenkins**, or **Azure DevOps** by adding a test script to `package.json`:

```
"scripts": {  
  "test:api": "npx playwright test tests/api"  
}
```

Run in CI/CD:

```
npm run test:api
```

Structuring API Tests in Playwright

Folder Structure:

```
tests/
├── api/
│   ├── login.spec.ts
│   ├── user.spec.ts
│   └── post.spec.ts
├── ui/
│   ├── homepage.spec.ts
│   └── dashboard.spec.ts
```

Organising tests in separate folders helps manage UI and API automation efficiently.

Playwright API Test Best Practices

- ✅ **Use Environment Variables:** Store API keys, tokens, and URLs securely.
 - ✅ **Avoid Hardcoded Data:** Use dynamic test data.
 - ✅ **Validate Response Time:** Set limits for API response time.
 - ✅ **Use Request Hooks:** Mock API responses for testing.
 - ✅ **Run Tests in Parallel:** Use Playwright's parallel execution for faster test runs.
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Conclusion

Playwright is not just for UI testing—it's a powerful tool for **API automation** as well! It provides built-in API support, making validating **REST APIs**, **authentication mechanisms**, and **performance testing** easier.

Start implementing these tests in your projects today!