

THE COMMONJS MODULE SYSTEM

- 👉 Each JavaScript file is treated as a separate module;
- 👉 Node.js uses the **CommonJS module system**: `require()`, `exports` or `module.exports`;
- 👉 **ES module system**: `import/export`;

```
// math.js
function add(x, y) {
  return x + y;
}

exports.add = add;
```

```
// index.js
const math = require('./math.js');

console.log(math.add(2, 3)); // outputs 5
```



Where does it come from?

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE REQUIRE() A MODULE

```
require('test-module');
```

RESOLVING &
LOADING

WRAPPING

EXECUTION

RETURNING
EXPORTS

CACHING

PATH RESOLVING: HOW NODE DECIDES WHICH MODULE TO LOAD

- 1 Start with **core modules**;
- 2 If begins with `./` or `../` 🖱️ Try to **load developer module**;
- 3 If no file found 🖱️ Try to **find folder** with `index.js` in it;
- 4 Else 🖱️ Go to **node_modules/** and try to find module there.

🖱️ Core modules

```
require('http');
```

🖱️ Developer modules

```
require('./lib/controller');
```

🖱️ 3rd-party modules (from NPM)

```
require('express');
```

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```
(function (exports, require, module, __filename, __dirname) {  
  // Module code lives here ...  
});
```

- 👉 **exports**: a reference to `module.exports`, used to export object from a module;
- 👉 **require**: function to require modules;
- 👉 **module**: reference to the current module;
- 👉 **__filename**: absolute path of the current module's file;
- 👉 **__dirname**: directory name of the current module.

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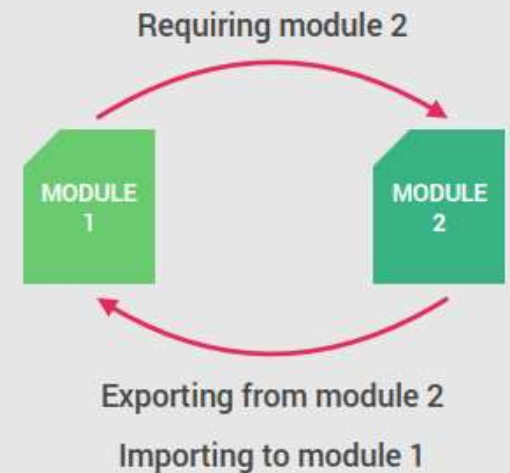
RETURNING
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In ES Modules =
export default

In ES Modules = export

- 👉 `require` function returns **exports** of the required module;
- 👉 `module.exports` is the returned object (important!);
- 👉 Use `module.exports` to export one **single variable** e.g. one class or one function (`module.exports = Calculator`);
- 👉 Use `exports` to export **multiple** named variables (`exports.add = (a, b) => a + b`);
- 👉 This is how we import data from one module into another;



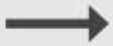
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