

Python for Web Developers Learning Journal

Exercise 2.1: Getting Started with Django

Learning Goals

- Explain MVT architecture and compare it with MVC
- Summarize Django's benefits and drawbacks
- Install and get started with Django

Reflection Questions

1. Suppose you're a web developer in a company and need to decide if you'll use vanilla (plain) Python for a project, or a framework like Django instead. What are the advantages and drawbacks of each?

The advantages of using Django over plain Python includes it's pre-structured functionality that allows developers to focus more on the project logic rather than common development tasks. It also includes helpful plugins such as authentication and user-friendly admin panels. One of the drawbacks of Django is that it has a very firm structure that does not allow any flexibility, additionally its server intensive making it not suitable for more simple projects that don't require a database.

2. In your own words, what is the most significant advantage of Model View Template (MVT) architecture over Model View Controller (MVC) architecture?

The most significant advantage of the MVT architecture over the MVC one is that you don't have to write code to fetch the data from the database and map it to the URL, you only need to specify which items to present to the user and the template will render it.

3. Now that you've had an introduction to the Django framework, write down three goals you have for yourself and your learning process during this Achievement. You can reflect on the following questions if it helps:
 - What do you want to learn about Django?
 - I want to gain a deep understanding of the MVT architecture.
 - What do you want to get out of this Achievement?
 - I want to learn how to build an application that can handle heavy traffic and manage large amounts of data.
 - Where or what do you see yourself working on after you complete this Achievement?
 - I would like to build a e-commerce clothing shop application with Django.