



# Introduction To Mongoose

*Software Development Bootcamp*

Using Mongoose With MongoDB and Express

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# What Is Mongoose?

- Mongoose is an Object Data Modeling (ODM) library for MongoDB and Node.js
- It provides a higher-level abstraction for interacting with MongoDB, including:
  - Schema definitions
  - Data validation
  - Query building



## Why Use Mongoose?

Mongoose replaces the mongodb driver and:

- Executes mongodb queries on your behalf
- Provides schema-based data modeling
- Ensures data integrity



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# Schemas And Models

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# What Are Mongoose Schemas?

- A schema defines the structure of the data in a collection and can also define methods.
- Schemas:
  - Define data structure and behavior
  - Create a model
  - Use SchemaTypes



## Example Schema

For more details see the  
Mongoose documentation

```
import { Schema, model } from "mongoose";

const studentSchema = new Schema({
  firstName: {
    type: String,
    required: true
  },
  lastName: {
    type: String,
    required: true
  },
  email: {
    type: String,
    required: true,
    unique: true
  },
  password: {
    type: String,
    required: true
  }
})

export default model("Student", studentSchema)
```



## Why Use Schemas?

- Ensures data integrity by enforcing a consistent structure
- Prevents invalid data from being saved to the database
- Reduces the need for manual data checking in your application code
- Provides clear error messages when validation fails
- Allows for custom validation rules to meet specific business requirements
- Improves overall data quality and reliability in your application



# What Are Mongoose Models?

- A Model is an object created using the schema
- Models:
  - Enforce schema types (e.g., String, Boolean)
  - Create a collection based on the model name
  - Instances of models are documents





## Models And Collections

- Creating a model instance makes a document
- Using `.save()` adds the document to a collection
- Collection names are lowercase and pluralized versions of the model name (e.g. **Student** becomes **students**)



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# Using Mongoose And MongoDB

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# General Setup

## 1. Initial setup

- a. Create new directory
- b. install dependencies

## 2. Server Setup

- a. Make necessary changes to **package.json**
- b. Set up **.gitignore** and **.env** files
- c. Import necessary tools (**.env, express, mongoose, cors**)
- d. Connect Database / Add Middleware

## 3. Route And Model Setup



## Initial Setup

1. Create a new directory: `mkdir mongoose-example`
2. Cd into new directory: `cd mongoose-example`
3. Initialize a new Node.js project: `npm init-y`
4. Install dependencies: Remember you can install all dependencies at the same time with the `npm i` command followed by your dependencies.  
`npm i express mongoose dotenv`



## Server Setup: Changes to package.json

- Make sure the value of the `"main"` field matches what you've named your "entry" file. In this example our entry file is `app.js`
- Add the field `"type"` and give it the value `"module"`. This allows us to use import syntax.
- In the `"scripts"` field add a new key value pair for running your server `"dev": "node app.js"`

```
{
  "name": "mongoose_example",
  "version": "1.0.0",
  "description": "",
  "main": "app.js",
  "type": "module",
  "scripts": {
    "test": "echo \"Error: no test specified\" && exit 1",
    "dev": "node app.js"
  },
  "keywords": [],
  "author": "",
  "license": "ISC",
  "dependencies": {
    "cors": "^2.8.5",
    "dotenv": "^16.4.5",
    "express": "^4.21.0",
    "mongoose": "^8.7.0"
  }
}
```



## Server Setup: `.env` And `.gitignore`

- At the root level of the project create a `.env` file and a `.gitignore` file
- Add environment variables to `.env` file
- Add `.env` file to `.gitignore` file.

`.env` file

`PORT = 3000`

`MONGODB = mongodb://localhost:27017`

`.gitignore` file

`# Add .env file to gitignore`

`.env`



## Server Setup: app.js

### Importing Dependencies

- Start by importing necessary dependencies
- `dotenv.config()` allows us to access the values in the `.env` file
- Create variables for using express and accessing our environment variables

```
app.js

// import necessary tools
import dotenv from 'dotenv'
import express from 'express'
import mongoose from 'mongoose'
import cors from 'cors'

// use dotenv
dotenv.config()

// create variables for using express,
// and accessing environment variables
const app = express()
const PORT = process.env.PORT
const MONGO = process.env.MONGODB
```



## Server Setup: Connect Database And Add Middleware

- Use `mongoose.connect()` to establish a connection to the database
- Set that connection to a variable `db`
- Use the `.once()` method to check the connection
- Add express middleware
  - `express.json()` allows processing of json requests
  - `cors()` allows for “cross origin requests”
- Use the `.listen()` method to check what port is listening

*app.js*

```
// Use the mongoose .connect() method to
connect to database. NOTICE we use the MONGO
variable we defined previously followed by a
"/<name of database>"
mongoose.connect(`${MONGO}/myMongooseTest`)
// Set the connection equal to a variable
"db"
const db = mongoose.connection
// console log to let us know the db is
connected
db.once("open", () =>
console.log(`connected: ${MONGO}`))
// Express middleware
app.use(express.json())
app.use(cors())
// console log to let us know we are
listening on the PORT we defined
app.listen(PORT, () => console.log(`student
server on port: ${PORT}`))
```





## Basic Setup Complete

- At this point you should be able to start your server and connect to your database!
  - Run the command `npm run dev`



## Mongoose Model Setup

- Create a new folder **models** this is where all your models will be stored.
- In this example we use a “Student” as our model



## Student Model

- Within the **models** folder create a file **student.model.js**
- Using import syntax we can bring in only the parts of mongoose we need, **Schema**, and **model**

```
import { Schema, model } from "mongoose";

const studentSchema = new Schema({

  firstName: {

    type: String,

    required: true

  },

  lastName: {

    type: String,

    required: true

  },

  email: {

    type: String,

    required: true,

    unique: true

  },

  password: {

    type: String,

    required: true

  }

});

export default model("Student",

studentSchema)
```

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## Mongoose Route Setup

- Create a new folder called **Routes** This is where all routes will be stored.
- The first routes we create will be for our **Student** model so we can name this file **student.route.js**



## Student Routes

- Import express **Router** using import syntax
- Import the **Student** model we created
- Save the express router functionality to a variable called **router**
- Define a **post** route at **/new** that creates a new student.
- Use the **.save()** method to save the new Student to the database
- Export the **router**

```
import { Router } from "express";
import Student from
'../models/student.model.js'
const router = Router()
router.post('/new', async(req, res) => {
  try {
    const student = new Student({
      firstName: req.body.firstName,
      lastName: req.body.lastName,
      email: req.body.email,
      password: req.body.password
    })
    const newStudent = await
student.save()
    res.status(200).json({
      student: newStudent,
      message: `success`
    })
  } catch (error) {
    console.log(error.message)
  }
})
export default router
```



## Adding Routes to `app.js`

- In `app.js` at the bottom of our imports we import `studentRoute`
- After our express middleware we use the `studentRoute` at `/students`

```
app.js

// Importing the student routes
import studentRoute from
'./routes/student.route'

// Express middleware
app.use(express.json())
app.use(cors())

// using the student route
app.use('/student', studentRoute)
```

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## Testing With Postman

- Open Postman and test the route you created.
- Make sure:
  - Your server is running and your code has been saved
  - Double check the route when testing in postman
  - Double check the request type (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE) in Postman.