Using ExpressJS with NodeJS

# ExpressJS is web application framework for Node.js

In our previous tutorial we learned how to create an HTTP server using javascript. This time we are learning how to implement ExpressJS into our script so we can have our subpages.

Here we are going to require the Atom IDE, command prompt, and you for this tutorial.

To start off, open up the AtomIDE and open your server.js project folder.

Your code should look like this-

|  |
| --- |
| const http = require('http');  const hostname = '127.0.0.1';  const port = 8080;  const server = http.createServer((req, res) => {    res.statusCode = 200;    res.setHeader('Content-Type', 'text/plain');    res.end('Hello World');  });  server.listen(port, hostname, () => {    console.log(`Server running at http://${hostname}:${port}/`);  }); |

Now we go to the command prompt. We must type the following command-

|  |
| --- |
| npm install -g express |

This imports expressJS onto your computer for you to import it to your code later.

Now you have expressJS on your computer. Now we head back to Atom and we will import expressJS from our computer to our code.

We will remove our first line of code from our script and replace it with the following-

|  |
| --- |
| const express = require('express');  const bodyParser = require('body-parser');  const app = express(); |

The const variable imports express from our computer and adds it and its commands into our code. Line one imports the expressJS commands. Line two imports bodyParser. Line three sets up the server as an Express server instead of an HTTP server.

Now we will set up our separate pages we can access through our site. Go back to atom and head to your code. Right click where it says your project folder and click New File. When the prompt pops up, type in index.html and hit enter. This has created an index.html file in our project folder. When you open your html file, type html into line one and hit enter.

You can use this page for whatever you would like. In our case we will just have it say “hello”. In your index.html page, look for where it says body. In between the two bodies type in-

|  |
| --- |
| <p>hello</p> |

This creates a paragraph and creates the text “hello” when the page opens.

|  |
| --- |
| // GET method route  app.get('/', function (req, res) {    res.send('GET request to the homepage')  }) |

Now we will route to the homepage. The app.get method gets an application’s endpoints (URIs) to respond to client requests.