Notebook 3

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');  //ip the server uses  const hostname = '127.0.0.1';    //port the server uses  const port = 8080;  const server = http.createServer((req, res) => {  //sends back status code 200 to give the ay ok  res.statusCode = 200;  res.setHeader('Content-Type', 'text/plain');  //prints ‘Hello World’ to the screen when you access the website  res.end('Hello World');  });  //creates a listen server  server.listen(port, hostname, () => {  //prints the server is running into the command prompt  console.log(`Server running at http://${hostname}:${port}/`);  }); |

Obtain the project folders file path either through your file explorer, or copy the full file path from Atom. Now we go to the command prompt and cd into your folder with the file path you just obtained and coptied. Next, type the following command-

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

This downloads expressJS in the project folder for you to import it to your code later.

Now you have expressJS in your project. Now we head back to Atom and make a new file. We would be making too many changes to the base code so we will just make a new file

For the first two lines of code, we will use const to import the express library.

|  |
| --- |
| const express = require('express');  const app = express(); |

On line three, type in-

|  |
| --- |
| Const hostname = ‘127.0.0.1’ |

This makes 127.0.0.1 the IP the server uses.

On line four type -

|  |
| --- |
| Const port = 8080 |

This makes port 8080 the port the server uses

After your done altering the lines of code, we will make the page that the user sees when they first get on the website. Copy the following code into line 10.

|  |
| --- |
| // GET method route  app.get('/', function (req, res) {  res.send('Top of the mornin')  }) |

The first line of this block of code uses app.get to get the root of the website. Line two uses res.send to send back ‘Top of the morning’ when you access the website. Now we can run the server through command prompt but first, check your code with ours.

By the end of this tutorial your code should look like this-

|  |
| --- |
| const express = require('express');  const app = express();  //ip the server uses  const hostname = '127.0.0.1';  //port the server uses  const port = 8080;  // GET method route  app.get('/', function (req, res) {  res.send('Top of the mornin')  })  //creates a listen server  app.listen(port, hostname, () => {  //prints the server is running into the command prompt  console.log(`Server running at http://${hostname}:${port}/`);  }); |

Now we can run the server. Obtain the file path for the project folder, open up command prompt and CD into the directory required. Run the ‘node server.js’ command. Now you should be able to log onto your server. Your website should look something like this-

