Using EJS with ExpressJS

# EJS is a templating engine for NodeJS.

To begin, initialize a NodeJS project. After you do that, make sure you run NPM install ejs. This will install the EJS module in to your project. Your first bit of code here should look like this:

|  |
| --- |
| var express = require(‘express’);  var app = express(); //installs the express module which is required for EJS.  //Sets EJS as the view engine so you can use EJS for the rest of your project.  app.set(‘view engine’, ‘ejs’); |

Now, in your main project folder, create another folder called “views”. Within views, create a file called “home.ejs” which will be your main file you see from your website. Your home.ejs should look like this.

|  |
| --- |
| <!DOCTYPE html>  <html>  <head>  <title>Home Page</title>  </head>  <body>  <center>This is our home page.</center>  </body>  </html> |

Now, go back to your .js file. Beneath your existing code, put the following code. This will (once your .js file is runable) render your home.ejs file as the homepage for your website.

|  |
| --- |
| app.get('/', (req, res)=>{  res.render('home', {name:’Akashdeep’});  }); |

Now, to make your .js file work, you need to make it listen at a port. Beneath everything, put the following:

|  |
| --- |
| var server = app.listen(4000, function(){  console.log(‘listening to port 4000’)  });  //the 4 digit number does not have to be 4000, and can be any 4 digit number. |

You can now run the .js file.

Now, go back to your .HTML code and update it to match this:

|  |
| --- |
| <!DOCTYPE html>  <html>  <head>      <title>Home Page</title>  </head>  <body>      <center>          This is our home page.<br/>          Welcome <%=name%>, to our home page.      </center>  </body>  </html> |

Now run the code, because you can. To check your work, your JavaScipt code should look like this (with or without comments):

|  |
| --- |
| var express = require(‘express’);  var app = express(); //installs the express module which is required for EJS.  app.set(‘view engine’, ‘ejs’);  app.get('/', (req, res)=>{    var data = {name:'Akashdeep',      hobbies:['playing football', 'playing chess', 'cycling']}    res.render('home', {data:data});  });    var server = app.listen(4000, function() {      console.log('listening to port 4000')  }); |

And HTML:

|  |
| --- |
| <!DOCTYPE html>  <html>  <head>      <title>Home Page</title>  </head>  <body>      Hobbies of <%=data.name%> are:<br/>      <ul>          <% data.hobbies.forEach((item)=>{%>          <li><%=item%></li>          <%});%>      </ul>  </body>  </html> |