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# Express

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## Hello world example

> Embedded below is essentially the simplest Express app you can create. It is a single file app — **not** what you'd get if you use the Express generator, which creates the scaffolding for a full app with numerous JavaScript files, Jade templates, and sub-directories for various purposes.

```
1   const express = require('express'  4.17.1  )
2   const app = express()
3   const port = 3000
4
5   app.get('/', (req, res) => {
6     res.send('Hello World!')
7   })
8
9   app.listen(port, () => {
10    console.log(`Example app listening at http://localhost:${port}`)
11  })
```

This app starts a server and listens on port 3000 for connections. The app responds with "Hello World!" for requests to the root URL (/) or **route**. For every other path, it will respond with a **404 Not Found**.

The example above is actually a working server: Go ahead and click on the URL shown. You'll get a response, with real-time logs on the page, and any changes you make will be reflected in real time. This is powered by RunKit, which provides an interactive JavaScript playground connected to a complete Node environment that runs in your web browser. Below are instructions for running the same app on your local machine.

> RunKit is a third-party service not affiliated with the Express project.

### Running Locally

First create a directory named `myapp`, change to it and run `npm init`. Then install `express` as a dependency, as per the installation guide.

In the `myapp` directory, create a file named `app.js` and copy in the code from the example above.

> The `req` (request) and `res` (response) are the exact same objects that Node provides, so you can invoke `req.pipe()`, `req.on('data', callback)`, and anything else you would do without Express involved.

Run the app with the following command:

```
$ node app.js
```

Then, load `http://localhost:3000/` in a browser to see the output.

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