#### **Software and Environment**

#### Django Installation

- Check if Python installed > python --version
- Check if pip installed > pip --version
- virtual env:

The virtual environment is to isolate the project

- Using venv:
  - Simple and built into Python.
  - o Suitable for basic virtual environment management.
  - Requires manual activation and management.
  - o Command: python -m venv path\to\your\venv
  - o & .\path\to\your\venv\Scripts\activate
- Using virtualenvwrapper-win (use virtualenvwrapper without the –win for Mac and Linux):
  - o Provides a higher level of convenience and functionality.
  - o Easier to manage multiple environments with simple commands.
  - o Requires installing the virtualenvwrapper-win package.
  - Offers a more organized and streamlined workflow, especially for complex projects or when frequently switching between environments.
  - o Command: pip install virtualenvwrapper-win
  - o & mkvirtualenv myenv

To be able to create virtual environments, install the env wrapper with

- > pip install virtualenvwrapper-win
- project specific (blog env)
  - > mkvirtualenv blog env
- Virtual envs are activated when you create them. If you want to activate an environment from previous creation, use command: > workon blog env
- To exit a virtual env later, use command: > deactivate
- Now we want to install our django web framework inside our virtual environment/
  - > pip install django==5.0.6

!!! Now we are finally ready to start our project.

#### Start the Project

Below are the step-by-step instructions to create a Django project named blog\_project and an application named blog\_app. We'll do this in stages, ensuring we can test each part using the development server.

## **Stage 1: Project and Application Initialisation**

## 1.1 Create the Project

Open your terminal and create a new Django project named blog\_project.

- Make sure that you are inside the correct project env, ie. blog env
- Move to the folder where you want your project files to be created in.
- Start the project initialisation with the below:
  - > django-admin startproject blog project

## 1.2 Navigate to the Project Directory

# > cd blog\_project

Open VS Code and add the project folder to your workspace. Let's investigate the folders:

initpy	Just as with modules,	this empty file indicates t	that this is not an or	dinary folder, but the
--------	-----------------------	-----------------------------	------------------------	------------------------

folder where this file is in is a Python Package folder.

asgi.py Used to configure the ASGI (Asynchronous Server Gateway Interface) server settings for

the project. ASGI is the successor to WSGI (Web Server Gateway Interface) and is

designed to handle asynchronous web requests. Asynchronous web requests allow a web server to handle multiple requests concurrently, rather than processing them one at a

time in a sequential manner.

settings.py settings for your application environment

DEBUG = True -> Here we only want true while we are developing.

Set to False once the project goes live.

urls.py List route URLs to views.

Maps the url of a page to the function that the url will be performing

wsgi.py It exposes the wsgi (web server gateway interface) callable as a module-level variable

named 'application'. In other words, wsgi defines how web servers communicate with the

web application.

manage.py This is used to interact with the project. Warning: Do not touch.

- To test if our installation was successful, Django made a development server available and we can access this server by navigating to the project folder in the command prompt.
  - Now enter > python manage.py runserver
  - Enter localhost:8000 into your internet browser window and the site should appear if the installation was successful.

## 1.3 Create the Application

Create an application named blog app.

>python manage.py startapp blog\_app

# 1.4 Register the Application

Open blog project/settings.py and add blog app to the INSTALLED APPS list.

```
# Application definition

INSTALLED_APPS = [
    'django.contrib.admin',
    'django.contrib.auth',
    'django.contrib.contenttypes',
    'django.contrib.sessions',
    'django.contrib.messages',
    'django.contrib.staticfiles',
    'blog_app',
]
```

# Stage 2: Basic URL Configuration and View

# 2.1 Configure URLs

Create a urls.py file inside the blog\_app directory with VS Code

create blog\_app/urls.py

## 2.2 Update Project URLs

Open blog\_project/urls.py and include the blog\_app URLs. This will copy the url pattens that are placed in the blog\_app urls.py

```
from django.contrib import admin
from django.urls import path, include

urlpatterns = [
    path('admin/', admin.site.urls),
    path('', include('blog_app.urls')),
]
```

## 2.3 Create a Basic View

Open blog app/views.py and add the index view.

```
# blog_app/views.py

from django.http import HttpResponse

# Create your views here.
def index(request):
    return HttpResponse("Hello, World!")
```

#### 2.4 Define Basic URL Patterns

Open blog app/urls.py and add the following code:

```
# blog_app/urls.py

from django.urls import path
from . import views

urlpatterns = [
    path('', views.index, name='index'),
]
```

## 2.5 Run the Development Server

Run the server to test the basic setup.

>python manage.py runserver

Navigate to http://127.0.0.1:8000/ in your web browser, and you should see "Hello, World!".

## Stage 3: Add Models and Migrations

## 3.1 Define the BlogPost Model

Open blog\_app/models.py and define the BlogPost model.

```
#blog_app/models.py

from django.db import models

# Create your models here.
class BlogPost(models.Model):
   title = models.CharField(max_length=200)
   content = models.TextField()
   created_at = models.DateTimeField(auto_now_add=True)
   author = models.CharField(max_length=30)

# Below we want to create a display and this will be helpful when we
   # look at the data in the admin page
   def __str__(self):
        return self.title
```

## 3.2 Make Migrations and Migrate

Create and apply migrations to update the database schema.

NOTE: \*\*\*\*\* Each time you add or update models, we need to do a migration to update the sqlite database

- => First we want to make this specific to the app
- >python manage.py makemigrations blog\_app
- => and then we want to make the migration for the project
- >python manage.py migrate

NOTE: \*\*\*\* According to our current model and app name, the table name will be blog\_app\_blogpost

The model/class name will be made lowercase and this will be prefixed with the app name and an underscore.

## **Stage 4: Create Superuser and Admin Configuration**

## 4.1 Create a Superuser

Create a superuser to access the Django admin.

>python manage.py createsuperuser

Follow the prompts to create your superuser.

User:riaan; Pw:123

## 4.2 Register the Model with Admin

Open blog\_app/admin.py and register the BlogPost model.

```
# blog_app/admin.py
from django.contrib import admin
from .models import BlogPost

# Register your models here.
admin.site.register(BlogPost)
```

## 4.3 Run the Server and Access Admin

Run the development server again.

>python manage.py runserver

Navigate to http://127.0.0.1:8000/admin and log in with your superuser credentials.

You should see the BlogPost model listed and be able to add blog posts from the admin interface.

### Stage 5: Views and Templates for Blog Posts

### 5.1 Create Templates Directory

Create a templates directory inside blog app -> blog app/templates

Create a directory inside the templates directory that has the same name as the app, ie. blog app

>mkdir -p blog\_app/templates/blog\_app or use VS Code to create the folder

## 5.2 Create Index Template

Create a templates/blog\_app /index.html to display blog posts.

**NOTE:** Double Check if index.html is inside templates/blog\_app and not in templates/

### 5.3 Update the Index View

Modify blog\_app/views.py to render the template with blog posts.

```
# blog_app/views.py

from django.shortcuts import render
from .models import BlogPost

# Create your views here.

def index(request):
    posts = BlogPost.objects.all() # Grabbing all the records from the BlogPost table
    return render(request, 'blog_app/index.html', {'posts': posts})
```

## 5.4 Run the Server and Test

Run the development server.

>python manage.py runserver

Navigate to http://127.0.0.1:8000/ or localhost:8000, and you should see a list of blog posts.

## Stage 6: Add Blog Posts from the Webpage

## 6.1 Create a Form for Adding Blog Posts

Create a new template /blog app/add post.html for adding blog posts.

```
<!-- blog_app/templates/blog_app/add_post.html -->
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
    <title>Add Blog Post</title>
</head>
<body>
    <h1>Add a New Blog Post</h1>
    <form method="post">
        {% csrf_token %}
        <!-- {% csrf_token %} to generate a Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) token.
             in the form. Helps protect your web application from CSRF attacks. -->
        <label for="title">Title:</label>
        <input type="text" id="title" name="title"><br>
        <label for="content">Content:</label>
        <textarea id="content" name="content"></textarea><br>
        <label for="author">Author:</label>
        <input type="text" id="author" name="author"><br>
        <button type="submit">Add Post</button>
        <a href="{% url 'index' %}">Cancel</a>
    </form>
</body>
</html>
```

## 6.2 Create the View for Adding Posts

Add a view in blog app/views.py to render the template for adding a post.

```
# blog app/views.py
from django.shortcuts import render, redirect
from .models import BlogPost
# Create your views here.
def index(request):
    return HttpResponse("Hello, World!")
   posts = BlogPost.objects.all() # Grabbing all the records from the BlogPost table
    return render(request, 'blog_app/index.html', {'posts': posts})
def add_post(request):
   if request.method == 'POST':
        author = request.POST.get('author')
       title = request.POST.get('title')
       content = request.POST.get('content')
       BlogPost.objects.create(author=author, title=title, content=content)
        return redirect('index')
    return render(request, 'blog_app/add_post.html')
```

#### 6.3 Update URLs

Add a URL pattern for the add post view.

```
# blog_app/urls.py

from django.urls import path
from . import views

urlpatterns = [
    path('', views.index, name='index'),
    path('add/', views.add_post, name='add_post'),
]
```

## 6.4 Add a button to the index.html to interact with the add\_post.html

### 6.5 Run the Server and Test

Run the development server.

>python manage.py runserver

Navigate to http://127.0.0.1:8000/add/ and add a new blog post using the form.

After submission, you should be redirected to the index page, and the new post should be listed.

#### Stage 7: View and Edit Blog Posts from the Webpage

## 7.1 Create a template for Viewing a Blog Post

Create a new template /blog\_app/view\_post.html for viewing a specific blog post.

## 7.2 Create the View for Viewing Posts

Add a view in blog app/views.py to render the template for viewing a post.

```
# blog app/views.py
from django.shortcuts import render, redirect, get_object_or_404
from .models import BlogPost
# Create your views here.
def add post(request):
    if request.method == 'POST':
        author = request.POST.get('author')
        title = request.POST.get('title')
        content = request.POST.get('content')
        # Below is the ORM to create a new post record in the BlogPost table
        BlogPost.objects.create(author=author, title=title, content=content)
        # When done, return to the index.html page
        return redirect('index')
    return render(request, 'blog_app/add_post.html')
def view_post(request, post_id):
    post = get object or 404(BlogPost, id=post id)
    return render(request, 'blog_app/view_post.html', {'post': post})
```

## 7.3 Update URLs

Add a URL pattern for the view post view.

```
# blog_app/urls.py

from django.urls import path
from . import views

urlpatterns = [
    path('', views.index, name='index'),
    path('add/', views.add_post, name='add_post'),
    path('post/<int:post_id>/', views.view_post, name='view_post'),
]
```

## 7.4 Create a template for Editing a Blog Post

Create a new template /blog\_app/edit\_post.html for editing a specific blog post.

```
<!-- blog app/templates/blog app/edit post.html -->
<!DOCTYPE html>
   <title>Edit Post</title>
</head>
<body>
<h1>Edit Post</h1>
   <form method="post">
       {% csrf token %}
        <label for="title">Title:</label>
       <input type="text" id="title" name="title" value="{{ post.title }}"><br>
       <label for="content">Content:</label>
        <textarea id="content" name="content">{{ post.content }}</textarea><br>
       <label for="author">Author:</label>
        <input type="text" id="author" name="author" value="{{ post.author }}"><br>
        <button type="submit">Save Changes</putton>
        <a href="{% url 'view_post' post.id %}">Cancel</a>
</body>
</html>
```

## 7.5 Create the View for Editing Posts

Add a view in blog app/views.py to render the template for editing a post.

```
# blog app/views.py
from django.shortcuts import render, redirect, get object or 404
from .models import BlogPost
# Create your views here.
def view_post(request, post_id):
    post = get_object_or_404(BlogPost, id=post_id)
    return render(request, 'blog_app/view_post.html', {'post': post})
def edit_post(request, post id):
    post = get_object_or_404(BlogPost, id=post_id)
    if request.method == 'POST':
        author = request.POST.get('author')
        title = request.POST.get('title')
        content = request.POST.get('content')
        # Update the BlogPost record
        post.author = author
        post.title = title
        post.content = content
        post.save()
        return redirect('view_post', post_id=post.id)
    return render(request, 'blog_app/edit_post.html', {'post': post})
```

#### 7.6 Update URLs

Add a URL pattern for the edit post view.

```
# blog_app/urls.py

from django.urls import path
from . import views

urlpatterns = [
    path('', views.index, name='index'),
    path('add/', views.add_post, name='add_post'),
    path('post/<int:post_id>/', views.view_post, name='view_post'),
    path('edit/<int:post_id>/', views.edit_post, name='edit_post'),
]
```

# 7.7 Add a view link to the index.html posts

```
<!-- blog_app/templates/blog_app/index.html -->
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
   <title>Blog</title>
<body>
   <h1>Blog Posts</h1>
   <l
       {% for post in posts %}
          <a href="{% url 'view_post' post.id %}">{{ post.title }}</a> - {{
post.created_at }} by {{ post.author }}
       {% endfor %}
   <a href="{% url 'add_post' %}">Add New Post</a>
</body>
</html>
```

## 7.8 Run the Server and Test

Run the development server.

>python manage.py runserver

Navigate to localhost:8000 and test it out.

## Stage 8: Add a header.html and footer.html for modularisation and to use in multiple web pages.

### 8.1 Create the Partials Directory

Create a partials directory inside your blog app/templates/blog app directory.

Use VS Code for this or command

>mkdir -p blog\_app/templates/blog\_app/partials

## 8.2 Create the templates in the partials directory

Create the file header.html

#### Create the file footer.html

## 8.3 Create a base.html template in the same folder as the index.html

If the common HTML structure, including the <head> section, is defined in the base.html file, then the individual templates (index.html, add\_post.html, etc.) should not include their own <head> sections. Instead, they should extend base.html and define their content within the designated blocks.

### 8.4 Update the index.html

```
<!-- blog app/templates/blog app/index.html -->
{% extends "blog_app/base.html" %}
{% block title %}Blog Posts{% endblock %}
{% block content %}
    <h1>Blog Posts</h1>
    <u1>
        {% for post in posts %}
            <1i>>
               <a href="{% url 'view_post' post.id %}">{{ post.title }}</a> - {{
post.created at }} by {{ post.author }}
           {% endfor %}
   <a href="{% url 'add_post' %}">Add New Post</a>
</div>
{% endblock %}
```

## 8.5 Update the add post.html

```
<!-- blog_app/templates/blog_app/add_post.html -->
{% extends "blog_app/base.html" %}
{% block title %}Add Blog Post{% endblock %}
{% block content %}
    <h1>Add a New Blog Post</h1>
    <form method="post">
        {% csrf token %}
        <!-- {% csrf_token %} to generate a Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) token.
             in the form. Helps protect your web application from CSRF attacks. -->
        <label for="author">Author:</label>
        <input type="text" id="author" name="author"><br>
        <label for="title">Title:</label>
        <input type="text" id="title" name="title"><br>
        <label for="content">Content:</label>
        <textarea id="content" name="content"></textarea><br>
        <button type="submit">Add Post</button>
        <a href="{% url 'index' %}">Cancel</a>
</form>
{% endblock %}
```

### 8.6 Update the view post.html

## 8.7 Update the edit post.html

```
<!-- blog_app/templates/blog_app/edit_post.html -->
{% extends "blog_app/base.html" %}
{% block title %}Edit Post{% endblock %}
{% block content %}
    <h1>Edit Post</h1>
    <form method="post">
        {% csrf_token %}
        <label for="author">Author:</label>
        <input type="text" id="author" name="author" value="{{ post.author }}"><br>
        <label for="title">Title:</label>
        <input type="text" id="title" name="title" value="{{ post.title }}"><br>
        <label for="content">Content:</label>
        <textarea id="content" name="content">{{ post.content }}</textarea><br>
        <button type="submit">Save Changes</putton>
        <a href="{% url 'view_post' post.id %}">Cancel</a>
   </form>
{% endblock %}
```

#### 8.8 Run the Server and Test

Run the development server.

>python manage.py runserver

Navigate to localhost:8000 and test it out.

## Stage 9: If everything is working, it is time to add some styling.

NOTE: Remember that styling is independent of Django and the HTML/CSS styling rules apply here.

Remember inline, internal, external and bootstrap styling options.

## 9.1 base.html

```
<!-- blog_app/templates/blog_app/base.html -->
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
   <meta charset="UTF-8">
   <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
   <title>{% block title %}My Blog{% endblock %}</title>
       body {
           font-family: Arial, sans-serif;
           margin: 0;
           padding: 0;
           background-color: #f4f4f4;
        .header {
           background-color: #333;
           color: #fff;
           text-align: center;
           padding: 1rem 0;
       }
        .footer {
           background-color: #333;
           color: #fff;
           text-align: left;
           padding: 1rem;
           margin: 2rem 0 0 0; /* Top margin to separate from the content */
        .container {
           width: 80%;
           margin: 2rem auto;
           padding: 1rem;
           background-color: #fff;
           border-radius: 8px;
           box-shadow: 0 0 10px rgba(0, 0, 0, \overline{0.1});
        .index-page, .add-post-page, .view-post-page, .edit-post-page {
           margin-bottom: 2rem;
       .add-post-button, .edit-post-button, .back-button {
           display: inline-block;
           margin: 1rem 0;
           padding: 0.5rem 1rem;
           background-color: #007bff;
           color: #fff;
           border-radius: 4px;
```

```
cursor: pointer;
            text-decoration: none;
        .back-button {
            background-color: #6c757d;
        form label {
            display: block;
           margin-top: 1rem;
        form input, form textarea {
           width: 100%;
            padding: 0.5rem;
           margin-top: 0.5rem;
            border: 1px solid #ccc;
            border-radius: 4px;
           box-sizing: border-box; /* Ensures padding in the total width/height */
        form button {
           margin-top: 1rem 0;
            padding: 0.6rem 1rem;
            background-color: #28a745;
            color: #fff;
            border-radius: 4px;
            cursor: pointer;
</head>
<body>
   {% include "blog_app/partials/header.html" %}
   <div class="container">
        {% block content %}{% endblock %}
   </div>
   {% include "blog_app/partials/footer.html" %}
</body>
</html>
```

## 9.2 header.html

## 9.3 footer.html

## 9.4 index.html

```
<!-- blog_app/templates/blog_app/index.html -->
{% extends "blog_app/base.html" %}
{% block title %}Blog Posts{% endblock %}
{% block content %}
<div class="index-page">
   <h1>Blog Posts</h1>
   <l
       {% for post in posts %}
           <
               <a href="{% url 'view_post' post.id %}">{{ post.title }}</a> - {{
post.created_at }} by {{ post.author }}
           {% endfor %}
   <a class="add-post-button" href="{% url 'add_post' %}">Add New Post</a>
</div>
{% endblock %}
```

## 9.5 add post.html

```
<!-- blog app/templates/blog app/add post.html -->
{% extends "blog_app/base.html" %}
{% block title %}Add Blog Post{% endblock %}
{% block content %}
<div class="add-post-page">
    <h1>Add a New Blog Post</h1>
    <form method="post">
        {% csrf token %}
        <!-- {% csrf_token %} to generate a Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF) token.
             in the form. Helps protect your web application from CSRF attacks. -->
        <label for="author">Author:</label>
        <input type="text" id="author" name="author"><br>
        <label for="title">Title:</label>
        <input type="text" id="title" name="title"><br>
        <label for="content">Content:</label>
        <textarea id="content" name="content"></textarea><br>
        <button type="submit">Add Post</button>
        <a class="back-button" href="{% url 'index' %}">Cancel</a>
    </form>
</div>
{% endblock %}
```

### 9.6 view post.html

## 9.7 edit post.html

```
<!-- blog_app/templates/blog_app/edit_post.html -->
{% extends "blog_app/base.html" %}
{% block title %}Edit Post{% endblock %}
{% block content %}
<div class="edit-post-page">
    <h1>Edit Post</h1>
    <form method="post">
        {% csrf token %}
        <label for="author">Author:</label>
        <input type="text" id="author" name="author" value="{{ post.author }}"><br>
        <label for="title">Title:</label>
        <input type="text" id="title" name="title" value="{{ post.title }}"><br>
        <label for="content">Content:</label>
        <textarea id="content" name="content">{{ post.content }}</textarea><br>
        <button type="submit">Save Changes</putton>
        <a class="back-button" href="{% url 'view_post' post.id %}">Cancel</a>
    </form>
</div>
{% endblock %}
```

# 9.8 Run the Server and Test

Run the development server.

>python manage.py runserver

Navigate to localhost:8000 and test it out.