

Front-end

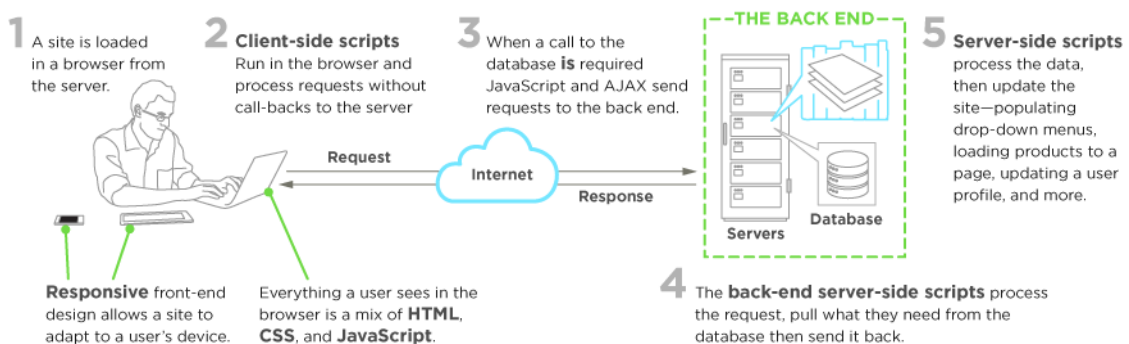
LinqOp is a sum of layers—structure, data, design, content, and functionality. Creating that user-facing functionality is the job of a **front-end** developer. Using a combination of markup languages, design, and client-side scripts and frameworks, the **front-end** developer creates the environment for everything that users see and touch: content, layout, and interaction.

Here's a look at the role of **front-end** programmers: their responsibilities, the environment they work in, the technologies they use, and related **front-end** skills.

FRONT-END DEVELOPMENT BASICS

FRONT-END DEVELOPMENT

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Front-end developers are the bridge between the designer and the **back-end** programmer, which means they have to be both creative and tech-savvy. The **front-end** code in action—code that breaks the design down into components, then delivers information and functionality made possible by the **back-end** developer. Focus is on the user experience (UX), and the technology they implement will hinge on how well it accomplishes that speed, efficiency, and smooth functionality.

Everything on the **front-end** is built with a mix of HTML, CSS, and client-side scripts like JavaScript—the core elements of **front-end** development. The **front-end** developer bridges the world of design and technology, bringing design to life and packaging up the utility of the back end in a modern, inviting way for users to interact with.

Generally, a **front-end** web developer's services include:

- Tailoring user experience
- Bringing a designer's concept to life with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript
- Production, modification, and maintenance of the platforms user interfaces
- Creating tools that enhance how users see and interact on **LinqOp** in any browser
- Implementing responsive design for mobile platforms
- Contributing some **back-end** experience, collaborating on **APIs**, and more
- Maintaining software workflow management with a project management tool like GitHub and task runners like Grunt and Gulp
- Consulting on SEO best practices
- Testing the platform during development for usability and fixing any bugs

FRONT-END FRAMEWORKS

Frameworks make quick work of development with libraries of pre-packaged, shareable code and software add-ons. Here are some popular frameworks that are good to know. The developers may use one or a combination of these when building the **front-end** of **LinqOp**.

- AngularJS: This framework, and several other JS frameworks, like Backbone.js, leverage the power of JavaScript.
- jQuery: A fast, small, JS object library, it streamlines how JavaScript behaves across different browsers.
- Bootstrap: This leading mobile-first framework blends HTML, CSS, and JavaScript to facilitate rapid responsive app development. With Bootstrap, the platform is compatible with all modern browsers and looks great on any size screen, from tablets to phones to laptops.
- Foundation: Created by ZURB, this business-minded, responsive **front-end** framework is used by platforms like Facebook, Yahoo!, and eBay.
- Semantic UI: This **front-end** user interface framework focuses on code readability, clean logic and structure, and has tons of features.
- Yeoman
- Pure.css: Created by Yahoo!, this lightweight, small framework is a set of responsive CSS modules to help streamline designing mobile platforms. When there's no need for a ton of features layered into the framework, Pure offers just the basics.
- Skeleton.css: Another responsive CSS framework that's on the rise, Skeleton is what it sounds like: the baseline, no-frills foundation for a responsive platform. This framework is a great place to start and doesn't require any compiling, so it gets platforms up and running fast.

The focus for the development of **LinqOp** is being placed on the MEAN stack.

MEAN: MongoDB/Express.js/AngularJS/Node.js – is an all-JavaScript-powered replacement for the traditional LAMP stack. It's excellent for businesses looking to be agile and scalable, offering flexibility with the MongoDB document-based database and lots of features for building single- and multipage web applications. By using JavaScript across the **front** and **back-ends**, developers working on the client side can easily understand the server-side code, which leads to greater productivity for the team.

MEAN benefits: single language used, supports the MVC pattern, uses JSON for data transfer, offers access to Node.js's JavaScript module library and the Express.js framework, is open source

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