

This is my approach

I built a Node.js API that handles user-specific task processing with rate limiting and queuing. To ensure scalability and performance, I used Node.js clustering to run multiple instances of the API, one for each CPU core, allowing the app to handle more requests concurrently.

For rate limiting, I applied two controls:

1 task per second and 20 tasks per minute, both on a per-user basis using [express-rate-limit](#). This ensures each user's requests are tracked and limited independently. Task queuing is managed with [Bull](#) and [Redis](#). Bull adds tasks to a queue, and Redis coordinates the workers to ensure tasks are processed in order and rate limits are respected. If a user exceeds their rate limit, their tasks are queued and processed later. [Redis](#) ensures consistency across all worker instances.

I also created a simple logging mechanism that records task completions (including user ID and timestamps) in a log file, so there's a persistent record of all processed tasks.

Finally, I added error handling to ensure the system can recover from failures, like [Redis downtime](#), without losing tasks.

Instructions on how to run and test My solution.

Install Dependencies:

Run `npm install` to install all necessary [Node.js packages](#), including [Express](#), [Bull](#), [Redis](#), [express-rate-limit](#).

Start [Redis](#):

Start Redis by running `redis-server` (or use Docker if you're on Windows). Verify it's working by running `redis-cli ping`, and you should get a PONG response.

Run the App:

Start the [Node.js app](#) using `node app.js` for a single instance or use `pm2` with the command `pm2 start app.js -i max` to run it on multiple CPU cores.

Test the API:

Use [Postman](#), `curl`, or any HTTP client to send a POST request to `http://localhost:3000/api/v1/task` with a [JSON body](#) like:

```
{
  "user_id": "123"
}
```

Check Rate Limiting:

Send more than 1 request per second or 20 requests per minute with the same `user_id` and you should receive a 429 Too Many Requests error.

View Task Logs:

Task completion logs (with user ID and timestamp) are saved in the `task_logs.txt` file. Check this file to see processed tasks.