Backend Interview Challenge

Stanley Shikwambi

18 July 2025

You are what you do, not what you say you'll do - Carl Jung

Your task is to demonstrate your frontend development skills by interacting with a provided backend service. The service provides an API that pulls data from a database that stores details about different football players.

Provided Backend Service Details

The existing backend service is already running and accessible at: http://0.0.0.8000

Authentication:

This service requires authentication. To get an API key, make a POST request to /auth. You will receive a unique API key that must be passed in the X-API-Key header for all subsequent requests to protected endpoints.

Available Routes:

- POST /auth: Get an API key.
- POST /createPlayer: Create a new player.
- GET /getPlayers: Get a list of all players.
- GET /getPlayer/{id}: Get a single player by ID.
- PUT /updatePlayer/{id}: Update an existing player.
- DELETE /deletePlayer/{id}: Delete a player.

Your Challenge

- 1. Authentication and Caching: Implement a mechanism to obtain an API key from the /auth endpoint. This API key has a Time-To-Live (TTL) of 60 minutes. You will need to implement a caching strategy to store and reuse this token, and also a refresh strategy to obtain a new token when the current one expires.
- 2. Data Retrieval and Augmentation: Call the GET /getPlayers route from the provided backend service. For each player retrieved, add two new fields with any data you deem relevant (e.g., calculated age, a new statistic, a derived property).
- 3. New Backend Service: Build a new backend service (using any stack of your choice) that exposes a single GET /new-players route. This route should return the list of players with the two new fields you added.

Guidelines

- You may use any backend stack or framework of your choice (e.g., Node.js, Python, Go, Java).
- You are allowed to use AI tools to assist you, but please do not use them to generate the entire solution. We are interested in seeing your problem-solving approach and coding style.
- Focus on clean code, good practices, and efficient data handling.

Good luck and have fun!