

11.1 Node.js Modules



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What is a Module in Node.js?

- Consider modules to be the same as JavaScript libraries.
- A set of functions you want to include in your application.

Using Built-in Modules

- Node.js has a set of built-in modules which you can use without any further installation.

```
var http = require('http');
```

- Now your application has access to the HTTP module, and is able to create a server:

```
http.createServer(function (req, res) {  
  res.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type': 'text/html'});  
  res.end('Hello World!');  
}).listen(8080);
```

Create Your Own Modules

- You can create your own modules, and easily include them in your applications.
- The following example creates a module that returns a date and time object:

```
exports.myDateTime = function () {  
  return Date();  
}
```

```
};
```

- Use the `exports` keyword to make properties and methods available outside the module file.

Include Your Own Module

- Now you can include and use the module in any of your Node.js files.
- Use the module "myfirstmodule" in a Node.js file.

```
var http = require('http');  
var dt = require('./myfirstmodule');  
  
http.createServer(function (req, res) {  
  res.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type': 'text/html'});  
  res.write("The date and time are currently: " + dt.myDateTime());  
  res.end();  
}).listen(8080);
```

- Notice that we use `./` to locate the module, that means that the module is located in the same folder as the Node.js file.
- Save the code above in a file called "demo_module.js", and initiate the file:
- Initiate demo_module.js:

```
C:\Users\Your Name>node demo_module.js
```

Additional Material

- **Learn more**
 - [W3Schools](#)