**EJS**

**Phase 1: Laying the Foundation**

1. Install EJS with NPM
2. Rename all HTML files to .ejs
3. In any files for insertable javascript templates (footer, header, navbar etc): remove javascript elements (only HTML left) and rename to .ejs
4. Assuming your .ejs files are in the views folder, add these toward the top of your node script:

app.set(*"views"*, path.join(\_\_dirname, *"views"*));

app.set(*"view engine"*, *"ejs"*);

1. Make all the app.get() statements for your pages look like this:

app.get(*'/register.html'*, (req, res) => {

    res.render(*"register"*, {});

});

That’s the basics of it, now for how to get it to pass through to each page.

**Phase 2: Passing the Data to the Page**

1. The database read should happen within the app.get() block
2. Move the res.render() shown above to inside the callback function for reading the database
3. Use the {} in res.render() to create a JSON object to pass data to your page.
   1. If you already have JSON data you can work with, replace the {} with the variable it’s stored in.

**Phase 3: Making the Page Display It**

*Take each of these numbered points slowly, one at a time. Don’t worry about what the next one is until you get to it.*

1. Where you need to insert a template into the body, (header, navbar, etc) put something like:

<%- include('navbar'); -%>

The example above will insert the HTML from the file navbar.ejs at that spot. Remove the <script> tag for the javascript file.

1. Make a block of HTML that will display your data, leaving the spots blank where that data will go
2. Each place you need to insert data in your HTML block, plop in:

<%= name -%>

Where “name” is whatever you called the property in the JSON you passed to the page. Also possible:

<%= name.property -%>

If “name” had a property in your JSON

1. If you need to generate multiple of the same blocks of code (contact page), put this **before** the HTML you’re repeating:

<% agency.forEach(function(agency) { %>

And this **after** it:

<% }); %>

The contact page should actually have one of these nested inside another one.

<% agent.forEach(function(agent) { %>

**References**

<https://ejs.co/#docs> (the official docs -- oversimplified to the point of being hard to understand)

<https://github.com/mde/ejs/wiki/Using-EJS-with-Express> (just for the express portion)