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Chapter 2

Node JS Example

Node.js First Example

There can be console-based and web-based node.js applications.

Node.js console-based Example

console.log('Hello Webisoftech');

Open Node.js command prompt and run the following code:

node console_example1.js

Here, console.log () function displays message on console.

Node.js web-based Example

A node.js web application contains the following three parts:

- 1. Import required modules: The "require" directive is used to load a Node.js module.
- 2. Create server: You have to establish a server which will listen to client's request similar to Apache HTTP Server.
- 3. Read request and return response: Server created in the second step will read HTTP request made by client which can be a browser or console and return the response.

How to create node js web applications

1. Import required module: The first step is to use ?require? directive to load http module and store returned HTTP instance into http variable. For example:

var http = require("http");

2. Create server: In the second step, you have to use created http instance and call http.createServer() method to create server instance and then bind it at port 8081 using listen method associated with

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server instance. Pass it a function with request and response parameters and write the sample implementation to return "Hello World". For example:
//
http.createServer(function (request, response) { // Send the HTTP header // HTTP Status: 200 : OK // Content Type: text/plain response.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type': 'text/plain'}); // Send the response body as ''Hello World'' response.end('Hello World\n'); }).listen(8081); // Console will print the message console.log('Server running at http://127.0.0.1:8081/');
//
3. Combine step1 and step2 together in a file named "main.js".
File: main.js
//
<pre>var http = require("http"); http.createServer(function (request, response) { // Send the HTTP header // HTTP Status: 200 : OK // Content Type: text/plain response.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type': 'text/plain'}); // Send the response body as "Hello World" response.end('Hello World\n'); }).listen(8081); // Console will print the message console.log('Server running at http://127.0.0.1:8081/');</pre>
//

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How to start your server:

Go to start menu and click on the Node.js command prompt. Now command prompt is open:

Set path: Here we have save "main.js" file on the desktop.

So type cd desktop on the command prompt. After that execute the main.js to start the server as follows:

node main.js

Now server is started.

Make a request to Node.js server:

Open http://127.0.0.1:8081/ in any browser. You will see the following resul

Now, if you make any changes in the "main.js" file, you need to again run the "node main.js" command