Firebase Services

In this lesson, we will introduce the cloud services that make up the Firebase ecosystem. You can use each one as a stand-alone service or combine them. Let's take a look at each Firebase service, that we will cover in this course, one by one.

Cloud Firestore

Cloud Firestore is Firebase's newest

database. Nearly every project needs

persistent data, and this is how Firebase delivers that functionality to you. Let's take a look at some of the benefits to using Firestore:

1. Realtime
2. NoSQL
3. Security

Cloud Firestore
The next generation of the Realtime Database

Realtime

Realtime means that for every change in the database, all connected clients are updated. This feature saves you a ton of time when developing applications. It simplifies logic and reduces how much code you need to write.

NoSQL

Cloud Firestore is a NoSQL document database. There has been a surge of popularity for NoSQL databases. A lot of developers find them easier to use. The data structures used by NoSQL databases are also viewed as "more flexible" than relational database tables.
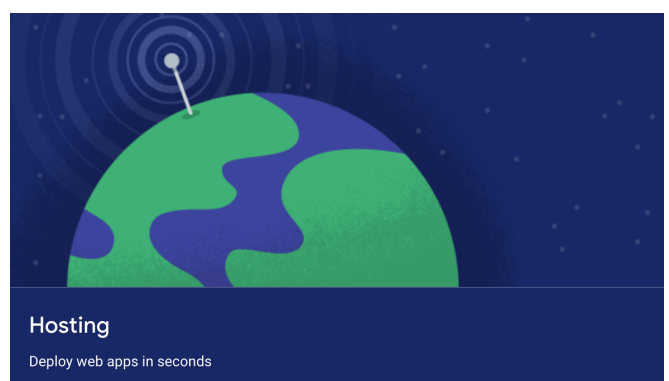
Security

Security is handled by a comprehensive set of security rules. There is no need to stand up your own server.

Hosting

Firebase Hosting is a no-nonsense, low learning curve, problem-free option. Here are a few reasons I like it and recommend it for other developers:

Hosting
Deploy web apps in seconds

1. SSL for every site
2. Fast servers

3. Deploy from CLI

SSL for every site

The SSL certificate is automatically provisioned and configured for each site deployed.

Fast servers

Sites deployed to Firebase Hosting are cached on SSD's for a low latency reliable experience.
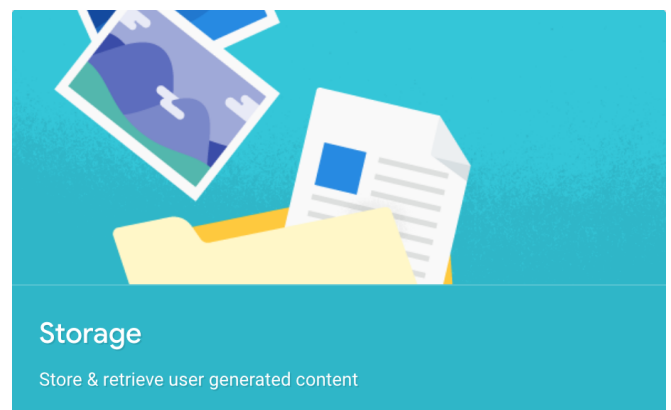
Deploy from CLI

Deploying your app to the web from a local directory only takes one command.

Storage

People love to share photos, videos, and gifs. Firebase storage allows your users to store and share these files through your app. Here are some of the features of Firebase's storage:

1. Scales
2. Security
3. Robust

Storage
Store & retrieve user generated content

Scales

Storage can scale to petabytes. No matter how big your app Firebase can handle it.

Security

After the files are uploaded to your app, access to them is defined by a set of comprehensive security rules.

Robust

There are no restrictions on the types of files you can upload, which means you can use the service for images, videos PDFs, or any other type of file.

Authentication

Authentication from scratch usually takes days if not weeks of coding to get it done correctly.

But Firebase offers a solution to authentication that requires less code, less time, and better security through the following features:

Authentication
Authenticate and manage users

1. Email and Password Authentication
2. OAuth authentication
3. Security
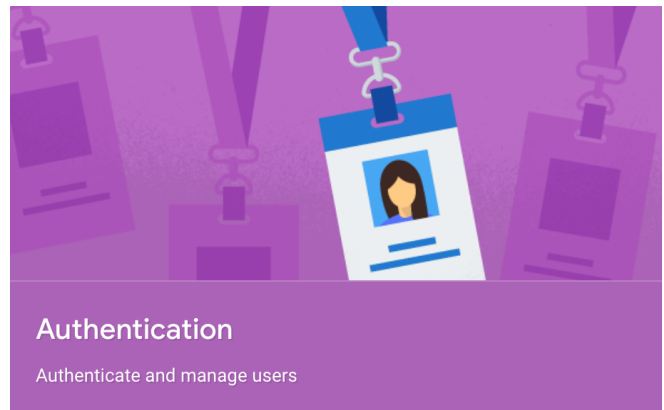
Email and Password Authentication

This method of authentication is perhaps the most used today and firebase has it built-in.

OAuth Authentication

Using an existing platform to authenticate a user is known as OAuth. Firebase utilizes Google, Facebook, Twitter, Github, and other providers.

Security

Authentication security is an incredibly hard task to take on yourself but Firebase has taken care of every last detail. Your users are secured from day one. No configuration required!

Core Services

There are several other services Firebase has to offer, but for this course, we will be discussing the most common ones used in development. With them, you will be able to leverage Firebase to build fast, highly effective web applications.

After taking this course, you will have the knowledge to continue learning new, useful and interesting things about Firebase.

What to expect

Each Firebase service can be used on its own or together with the other services. In the next lesson, I show you how the course is structured with insight into why I chose to teach one Firebase service before another. This is helpful because all of them are equally important but the order in which you learn them can make it easier or harder to get started using them effectively in your apps.