

Back-End Setup

Learn how to install express and other libraries required for our back-end setup, on your local machine!

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

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As already mentioned, for the back-end part of the installation Node.js and Express will be used.

While Node.js is the engine that got everything running, Express is the framework which we use to write Node.js applications with, easily. It is used to write our Web API, as well as for communication with the MongoDB server. For communication with the MongoDB server, there is a library especially crafted for it – *Mongoose*.

Installing Express

The same way that Angular-CLI was used to create a folder structure for the front-end, we will use the Express Generator to scaffold the back-end. Once again, we will reach to `npm`:

```
npm install -g express-generator
```

This will install the Express Generator globally. Once this is done, one can position the shell in the desired folder and run these commands:

```
express express_test  
cd express_test  
npm install
```

```
npm install
npm start
```

Running Express

For the above commands, we will: create a folder structure, install all necessary libraries, and run the application.

By default, our backend server will run on localhost:3000. Note that not all of the files created by this scaffolding tool will be used.

Installing Libraries

Now, let's install other dependencies that we need for this application. These are the libraries Mongoose and CORS.

```
npm install mongoose cors --save
```

Mongoose is used for communication with MongoDB, and CORS is used for the Cross-Origin Resource Sharing ([CORS](#)) mechanism, that gives web servers cross-domain access controls. We need this because we will be accessing our back-end application from our front-end application.

Running GitHub Code

If you want to run the code from the [github](#), that accompanies this article, you need to position to `mean_backend` folder in the shell and run these commands:

```
npm install
npm start
```

And that is all for the backend setup!