Web Development With Node And Express: Leveraging The JavaScript Stack

Ethan Brown
Synopsis

Learn how to build dynamic web applications with Express, a key component of the Node/JavaScript development stack. In this hands-on guide, author Ethan Brown teaches you the fundamentals through the development of a fictional application that exposes a public website and a RESTful API. You’ll also learn web architecture best practices to help you build single-page, multi-page, and hybrid web apps with Express. Express strikes a balance between a robust framework and no framework at all, allowing you a free hand in your architecture choices. With this book, frontend and backend engineers familiar with JavaScript will discover new ways of looking at web development. Create webpage templating system for rendering dynamic data. Dive into request and response objects, middleware, and URL routing. Simulate a production environment for testing and development. Focus on persistence with document databases, particularly MongoDB. Make your resources available to other programs with RESTful APIs. Build secure apps with authentication, authorization, and HTTPS. Integrate with social media, geolocation, and other third-party services. Implement a plan for launching and maintaining your app. Learn critical debugging skills. This book covers Express 4.0.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Coming from a html/php/javascript background, so I guess you can say I already know "Web Development" I wanted to learn how to use node. You should be able to build a simple node website after reading this book. First off, awesome author, he is a passionate programmer and good writer as
well. Chapter 5 about QA is an amazing chapter, and could inspire any developer. But this book is a bit confused on what it's supposed to be. It often deviates into scholarly philosophy about web development theory, but isn't this supposed to be a technical book? Don't get me wrong, the ideas in this book are great, but some of the theory seemed out of place, and just distracting from learning node.

My biggest problem with this book as a person who is already a 'web developer', is it fails to demonstrate any real benefit of using Node in future applications. You learn how to build a website that you could have made in the language you already know (be it Ruby, PHP, etc). It lists some of the things node is good at in the first chapter of the book like Single-Page Applications, Expandable packages, using AngularJS. But doesn't mention any of these things again, I find no compelling reasons to migrate from PHP to Node after reading this book (even though I've been told they exist). There is also no "Bringing it all together" chapter at the end, that would go through all the things you just learned to properly build a node website from scratch. While the book builds upon itself making the 'Meadowlark Travel Website', no objectives for the website are ever defined, so it doesn't feel like you are building anything real. It also gets more and more messy, especially when adding experimental features to demonstrate code functionality.

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