



Node.js

Complete Handbook 2026

Backend Development from Zero to Production

Node.js v22 LTS | npm | Express | MongoDB | Deployment



Modules



Express.js



REST APIs



Middleware



Async/Await



MongoDB



Authentication



JWT



WebSockets



Deployment



16

Chapters



120+

Examples



60+

Projects & Quizzes



Real API

Build



LearnStack
Learn. Build. Grow.

```
> const success = 'built daily';  
// Code. Learn. Ship.  
// Your journey starts here.
```



Gumroad Edition | ₹99

```
$ node --version
```

```
v22.x.x OK
```

If this command works, you are ready to begin building backend systems.

--- WHAT YOU'LL BUILD ---

What You'll Build

Five production-style outcomes from the handbook.

REST API with Express

Full CRUD, status codes, validation and tests.

Real-Time Chat Server

WebSocket events, rooms and live updates.

File Upload System

Safe uploads, limits, validation and storage.

MongoDB Data Layer

Schemas, models, relationships and pagination.

Deployed Production API

Live URL, environment variables, logs and health checks.

SERVER TIP

Read this book with a terminal open. Type the commands. Break examples intentionally. Debugging is where backend understanding becomes real.

HOW TO USE THIS HANDBOOK

Do not only read. Type, run, break and fix. Every server concept becomes easier after you see real terminal output.

LEARNSTACK STUDY METHOD

First run the smallest example. Then add one feature. Then write what changed in the request-response lifecycle.

BUYER VALUE PROMISE

This handbook is designed as a practical desk reference: concepts, commands, code, projects, checklists and interview notes in one PDF.

LearnStack quick recap

--- CHOOSE YOUR TRACK ---

Choose Your Track

Start at the right place and still keep the whole handbook as a reference.

BEGINNER

I know JavaScript but never touched backend.

Start: Chapter 01

INTERMEDIATE

I have built JS apps and want my first API.

Start: Chapter 06

ADVANCED

I build APIs and want auth, sockets and deployment.

Start: Chapter 11

--- PREREQUISITES CHECKLIST ---

Prerequisites Checklist

Everything you need before you start.

- JavaScript fundamentals: variables, functions, arrays, objects and modules.
- ES6+ comfort: arrow functions, destructuring, template strings and spread syntax.
- Promises and async/await are helpful; Chapter 05 will strengthen them.
- Basic terminal usage: cd, mkdir, touch, code, npm and node commands.
- No previous backend, server, deployment or database experience required.

```
TERMINAL - setup Node.js
$ mkdir node-handbook-labs
$ cd node-handbook-labs
$ npm init -y
$ node -e "console.log('LearnStack backend ready')"
```

```
CONSOLE OUTPUT >
LearnStack backend ready
```

WHAT'S HAPPENING

This confirms Node can execute JavaScript on your machine and npm can initialize projects.

--- CONTENTS ---

Contents

16 chapters, 3 bonus chapters and a 7-page cheat sheet.

[NODE] CH 01**What is Node.js? The Server-Side Revolution**

Understand the runtime, the server-side story, and your first script.

[NODE] CH 02**Node.js Architecture - Event Loop and Non-Blocking I/O**

The mental model that makes async servers finally click.

[NODE] CH 03**Modules - CommonJS, ES Modules and npm**

Organize backend code and use the npm ecosystem confidently.

[NODE] CH 04**Core Modules - fs, path, os, events and http**

Master the built-in tools Node gives you before npm.

[NODE] CH 05**Asynchronous Node - Callbacks, Promises, async/await and Streams**

Write backend code that waits without blocking the server.

[NODE] CH 06**Express.js - Building Your First Web Server**

Move from raw HTTP to productive API development.

[NODE] CH 07**Routing - Handling Every URL Your API Needs**

Design clear URLs and organize routes into files.

[NODE] CH 08**Middleware - The Heart of Express**

Build the pipeline that every request travels through.

LearnStack Free Preview

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