

FAQ

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FAQ

Questions this page answers

Conduit is a social blogging site with authentication, article feeds, profiles, comments, favorites, and account settings.

Use this page to choose the answer that matches what you are trying to do:

If you need to...	Go to
understand the product and its main features	What is Conduit or What can you do with Conduit
prepare for your first sign-in or registration	Your first day
sign in	Sign in
create an account	Create an account
choose between the article feeds	Find articles in Your Feed and Global Feed
understand a loading or unavailable state	Authentication and loading messages or Loading and unavailable states
update your profile settings	Update settings
leave the application	Sign out
investigate an error	General error messages or Common issues and solutions

Start with **Before you start** when you need to know which access state or information is needed first.

Before you start

Authentication identifies the account that can use protected parts of Conduit. The Login and Register routes are available to unauthenticated users, while Settings requires an authenticated user.

Have the following in place before you begin:

You need	Why it matters
An unauthenticated session for Login or Register	The authentication routes allow access when the current user is not authenticated.
An authenticated session for Settings	The Settings route requires authentication.
Your email address and password for Login	Email and Password are required on the Login form.
A username, email address, and password for Register	Username , Email , and Password are required on the Register form.
Your current profile information for Settings	Settings fills the form from the current user when that user is available.

Conduit authenticates users with JWT-based authentication. The application uses the token to identify the authenticated user.

With the access state and account information ready, continue to **Sign in or create an account**.

Sign in or create an account

Use Login to enter an existing account, or Register to create one. Login asks for **Email** and **Password**; Register adds **Username**.

Prerequisites

- For Login, have the existing account's email address and password.
- For Register, have the username, email address, and password for the new account.

Steps

1. Choose the route that matches your task:

If you want to...	Use
enter an existing account	Sign in
create an account	Create an account

2. Follow only the sequence for the route you chose:

Route	Sequence
Login	1. If you need a new account, select Need an account? ; otherwise, enter a value in Email , enter a value in Password , and select Sign in .
Register	1. If you already have an account, select Have an account? ; otherwise, enter a value in Username , enter a value in Email , enter a value in Password , and select Sign up .

Sign in and **Sign up** are disabled while the required form values are not valid.

Result: A successful Login or Register request takes you to Home. If the request is rejected, the returned error text appears in the error list on the authentication page.

Use Home and its feed states

Home is the article-browsing surface: it offers **Your Feed**, **Global Feed**, popular tags, and a paginated article list.

Prerequisites

- To use **Your Feed**, be signed in.
- To browse the public article list, open Home and use **Global Feed**.

Steps

1. Open Home.
2. Choose the feed that answers your question:

If you want to...	Select
read articles from users you follow	Your Feed
read the global article list	Global Feed

3. Use the **Popular Tags** area to choose a tag when a tag is listed.

While tags are loading, the page displays `Loading tags...`. If no tags are available after

loading, it displays `No tags are here... yet.`

While articles are loading, the list displays `Loading articles...` . When the following feed

has no articles, the list displays `Your feed is empty. Follow some users to see their articles here, or check out the Global Feed!` .

When the other article list is empty, the list displays `No articles are here... yet.`

Result: Home shows the selected feed, its article results, or the loading or empty-state

message that matches the current list state.

For account maintenance, continue to **Update Settings or sign out**.

Update Settings or sign out

Settings is the account-maintenance surface for the profile picture URL, username, short bio, email address, and password.

Prerequisites

- Sign in before opening Settings.
- Have the profile values you want to keep.

The Settings fields are:

Field	Use
URL of profile picture	Enter the profile picture URL.
Username	Enter the account username.
Short bio about you	Enter the short biography.
Email	Enter the account email address.
New Password	Enter a new password when you want to change it.

Steps

1. Open Settings.
2. Choose the action that matches your task:

If you want to...	Select
save profile changes	Update Settings
leave the account	Or click here to logout.

3. For profile changes, enter the new values in the applicable fields.
4. For a password change, enter the new value in **New Password**.
5. Select **Update Settings**.

When you are not changing the password, leave **New Password** empty. The update omits the password in that case.

Result: A successful settings update takes you to the updated user's profile. Selecting **Or click here to logout.** logs you out and takes you to Home. If the settings update is rejected, its returned error text appears in the error list.

If an authentication, loading, or network message appears, continue to **When loading or errors occur**.

When loading or errors occur

Use the message you can read on screen to choose the next help page. The application displays

Each returned error string is rendered as a list item.

What you see	What to do next
Loading...	Open Authentication and loading messages .
Connecting...	Wait for authentication to retry, or open Authentication and loading messages .
Auth unavailable - retrying automatically	Open Loading and unavailable states .
Unable to connect. Please check your internet connection.	Check the connection, then open Common issues and solutions .
A returned API error string	Match the text in General error messages .

When authentication is temporarily unavailable, the header displays **Connecting...** and the title **Auth unavailable - retrying automatically**. Authentication retries automatically.

When you have identified the message, continue to the linked task or troubleshooting page.

Continue with the right help page

Choose the destination that matches your next action:

Your next action is to...	Continue with
sign in	Sign in
create an account	Create an account
find articles in a feed	Find articles in Your Feed and Global Feed
browse by tag	Browse articles by tag
update profile settings	Update settings
sign out	Sign out
change your password	Change your password
investigate an authentication or loading message	Authentication and loading messages
investigate a general error	General error messages
solve a common issue	Common issues and solutions

Result: You have the next task or troubleshooting page for the question you are answering.