

Your first day

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Your first day in conduit

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Conduit gives you two ways to start: sign in with an existing account or create an account, then open a profile. The profile route uses a username and provides the person's profile details, article lists, and—depending on whose profile you open—profile actions.

If you need to...	Go to
Sign in with an existing account	Sign in or create your account
Create an account	Sign in or create your account
Reach a sign-in, sign-up, or profile screen	Reach the sign-in, sign-up, and profile screens
Recognize the fields and actions on these screens	Recognize the first-day screens
Open and use a profile	Visit a profile
Follow another author	Follow an author
View favorited articles	View favorited articles
Update your profile	Update your settings
Solve a general application error	General error messages
Find a solution to a common problem	Common issues and solutions
Get support	Getting help

Before you start

Have the details for the account path you want to use and the username of the profile you want to visit. The first-day screens use these fields:

Screen	Details to have ready	What the screen calls it
Sign in	Your email address and password	Email and Password
Sign up	The username, email address, and password for the new account	Username , Email , and Password
Profile	The profile username	The username in the profile address

These fields have no required marker, so enter the information needed for the account request before submitting it.

Reach the sign-in, sign-up, and profile screens

The sign-in screen is at `/login`, the sign-up screen is at `/register`, and a profile uses the profile screen for `<username>`. You can also move between the two account screens using their account links.

Prerequisites

- Know whether you are signing in or creating an account.
- Have the account details listed in [Before you start](#).
- Have the profile username if you are opening a profile.

Steps

1. Open `/login` to reach the sign-in screen.
2. Select **Need an account?** to open the sign-up screen.
3. Select **Have an account?** to return to the sign-in screen.
4. Open the profile screen for `<username>`.

Result: The selected sign-in, sign-up, or profile screen is open.

Sign in or create your account

Sign-in uses an existing account; sign-up sends the details for a new account.

Prerequisites

- For sign-in, have your email address and password.

- For sign-up, have the username, email address, and password for the new account.

Steps

1. Choose one account path and complete only that path:

Path	Complete path
Existing account	In Email , enter your email address. In Password , enter your password. Select Sign in .
New account	In Username , enter the new account name. In Email , enter the account email address. In Password , enter the account password. Select Sign up .

Result: The account request is submitted from the selected account screen.

Recognize the first-day screens

The three first-day screens have distinct jobs: Login and Register collect account details, while

Profile displays profile information and article views.

Screen	Fields or information	Controls and areas
Login	Email, Password	Need an account? , Sign in , and an error area
Register	Username, Email, Password	Have an account? , Sign up , and an error area
Profile	Profile username, bio, and image	Edit Profile Settings , profile action, My Articles , and Favorited Articles

On Profile, the page first has a loading state with `Loading profile...`. If loading fails, it shows `This profile could not be loaded. Please try again later.`. When the profile is loaded, the profile area includes the username and bio, followed by the profile action and article tabs.

The error area on Login and Register displays a dynamic entry in the form `<field> <message>`, where the field name and message come from the account response. A network failure uses `Unable to connect to the server`.

Visit a profile

The profile page presents the selected username and bio, offers article views, and shows an action that depends on whether the profile is yours and whether you follow it.

Prerequisites

- Know the profile username.
- Know the username in the profile address.

Steps

1. Open the profile screen for `<username>` .
2. Confirm that the profile area has loaded.
3. Read the displayed username and bio.
4. Select **My Articles** to view the profile's articles.
5. Select **Favorited Articles** to view the profile's favorited articles.
6. Choose the profile action that matches the profile state:

Profile state	Action
The profile belongs to you	Select Edit Profile Settings .
The profile belongs to another person and you do not follow the profile	Select Follow .
The profile belongs to another person and you follow the profile	Select Unfollow .

Result: The profile information and the selected article view are on screen, or the selected profile action has been started.

Handle the first-day branches

The first-day flow branches according to the account path, the redirect address, the profile owner, and the profile's follow state.

Situation	What to use or expect
You already have an account	Use the sign-in path.
You need an account	Use the sign-up path.

Situation	What to use or expect
The route includes a same-application redirect beginning with <code>/</code>	Successful authentication returns to that path.
No accepted redirect is present	Successful authentication returns to Home.
The profile is yours	The Edit Profile Settings control appears.
You follow the profile	Select Unfollow to stop following that profile.
You do not follow the profile	Select Follow to follow that profile.
The profile request fails after its retries	<code>This profile could not be loaded. Please try again later.</code> appears.

Result: The account path, redirect destination, profile action, and profile error state match the situation on screen.

When the first-day flow goes wrong

When account errors are present, Login and Register display an error list above the form. When account errors are present, each entry shows the field name followed by the first message for that field. A network failure uses `Unable to connect to the server`.

Prerequisites

- Be on the screen that displays the message.

Steps

1. Choose the recovery action that matches the message:

If you see...	Do this
<code>Unable to connect to the server</code>	Check the connection, then retry the account request.
A dynamic <code><field> <message></code> entry above Login	Correct the named account detail, then select Sign in .
A dynamic <code><field> <message></code> entry above Register	Correct the named account detail, then select Sign up .
<code>This profile could not be loaded. Please try again later.</code>	Check the profile username, then open the profile screen for <code><username></code> .

If you see...	Do this
Loading profile...	Confirm that the profile area has loaded before choosing a profile action or article tab.

Result: The account request or profile screen is ready for the next action.

For reusable message explanations, see [General error messages](#).

For broader troubleshooting, see [Common issues and solutions](#).

Continue after your first visit

After account access and a first profile visit, continue with the task that matches what you want to do next.

If you want to...	Continue with...
Understand the rest of the application surface	Understanding the interface
Move between the application's routes	Navigation basics
Read a profile in detail	View a profile
Follow or unfollow an author	Follow an author
Browse favorited articles	View favorited articles
Edit your profile information	Update your settings
Discover or read articles	Discover articles or Read an article