

UnauthorizedException

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UnauthorizedException

Kind: Class

Source: `packages/common/exceptions/unauthorized.exception.ts`

Part of: [Common](#)

Defines an HTTP exception for *Unauthorized* type errors.

`UnauthorizedException` represents an HTTP 401 error, indicating that a request cannot be authenticated or lacks valid credentials. It extends the framework's HTTP exception model so authentication guards, controllers, and global exception filters can return a consistent unauthorized response.

Extends: `HttpException`

Diagram

```
graph LR
  Client[Client Request] --> Guard[Authentication Guard]
  Guard -->|Missing or invalid credentials| Exception[UnauthorizedException]
  Exception --> Filter[HTTP Exception Filter]
  Filter --> Response[HTTP 401 Unauthorized Response]
```

Usage

```
import { UnauthorizedException } from '@nestjs/common';

function validateAccessToken(token?: string) {
  if (!token || token !== process.env.API_ACCESS_TOKEN) {
    throw new UnauthorizedException('Invalid or missing access token');
  }

  return { authenticated: true };
}
```

AI Coding Instructions

- Throw `UnauthorizedException` when authentication fails, credentials are missing, or a token is invalid or expired.
- Use `ForbiddenException` instead when the user is authenticated but does not have permission for the requested resource.
- Provide a safe, client-facing error message; never include tokens, passwords, or internal authentication details.
- Prefer throwing this exception from authentication guards or validation services so controllers remain focused on request handling.

Used by

4 references from 4 files. Each is a place in this repository where the symbol is actually used — go read one rather than trusting an example.

Imported by (4)

- `AuthGuard` — `integration/graphql-code-first/src/common/guards/auth.guard.ts` :9
- `AuthGuard` — `sample/19-auth-jwt/src/auth/auth.guard.ts` :13
- `AuthService` — `sample/19-auth-jwt/src/auth/auth.service.ts` :5
- `UnauthorizedFilter` — `integration/graphql-code-first/src/common/filters/unauthorized.filter.ts` :4