nodemon Restart on file change

START HERE

`nodemon <script.js>`
Run and restart on change

rs
Type + Enter: manual restart

nodemon
Use package.json main/start

nodemon.json
Save options per project

`nodemon -w <dir> <script.js>`
Watch only one path

`nodemon -e js,json <script.js>`
Pick watched extensions

`nodemon --exec "<cmd>"`
Run any command

`nodemon -d 2 <script.js>`
Wait 2 s before restart

Start run command → `app runs` → **Watch** files by ext/path → `file saved` → **Debounce** --delay → `signal` → **Restart** same command

CONCEPTS

nodemon is a restart loop: it runs your command, waits for a watched file to change, kills the process and starts it again.

Without --exec nodemon runs node (or the mapped runner for the script's extension, e.g. python for .py).

Defaults: watches the current directory for js, mjs, json and coffee; ignores .git and node_modules.

RUNNING

`nodemon <script.js>`
Run script, restart on changes

nodemon
Run main or scripts.start of package.json

`nodemon <script.js> <arg1> <arg2>`
Pass arguments to the script

`nodemon <script.js> -- --port 3000`
Stop nodemon parsing; pass flags on
Everything after -- goes to your script, even if it looks like a nodemon flag.

RUNNING (cont.)

`nodemon --inspect <script.js>`
Restart with the Node debugger

`nodemon --exec "<cmd>"`
Run any command instead of node

`nodemon -x python <app.py>`
Run a Python script

`nodemon -x "npx ts-node" <app.ts>`
Run TypeScript through ts-node

`nodemon -C <script.js>`
Start only after the first change

`nodemon --cwd <dir> <script.js>`
Run from another directory

`nodemon --spawn <script.js>`
Use spawn instead of fork (Node only)

`nodemon -I <script.js>`
Hand stdin straight to the app
Disables typing rs; use it when the app reads from stdin itself.

`nodemon --exitcrash <script.js>`
Exit if the app crashes

WATCHING

`nodemon -w <dir> <script.js>`
Watch a directory or file

WATCHING (cont.)

`nodemon -w <a> -w <b> <script.js>`
Watch several paths

`nodemon -e js,json,html <script.js>`
Watch these extensions

`nodemon -e "ts tsx" <script.js>`
Extensions separated by spaces

`nodemon -i <path>`
Ignore a file or directory

`nodemon -i "*.test.js" <script.js>`
Ignore a glob (quote it)

`nodemon -i "docs/**" <script.js>`
Ignore a whole tree

`nodemon -d <seconds> <script.js>`
Debounce restarts
Plain numbers are seconds on the CLI, but milliseconds in nodemon.json.

`nodemon -L <script.js>`
Poll for changes (Docker, network drives)
Last resort: polling uses CPU. Needed when file events do not reach the watcher.

`nodemon -L -P <ms> <script.js>`
Set the polling interval

WATCHING (cont.)

Quote globs, or the shell expands them before nodemon sees them.

CONTROL

rs
Restart manually (type, then Enter)

Ctrl+C
Quit nodemon and the app

`nodemon --signal SIGTERM <script.js>`
Kill signal used for restarts

`nodemon -V <script.js>`
Show which file caused a restart

`nodemon -q <script.js>`
Only print start and stop messages

`nodemon --dump`
Print the effective configuration

`nodemon -v`
Show the version

`nodemon --help options`
List all options

`nodemon --help config`
Explain config files

A clean exit prints 'clean exit - waiting for changes'; a crash waits for the next change too.

CONFIGURATION

nodemon.json
Per-project config next to the code

nodemonConfig in package.json
Same keys, inside package.json
Ignored when a local nodemon.json or --config file exists.

`nodemon --config <file>`
Use another config file

$HOME/nodemon.json
Global defaults for all projects

Common config keys

Key	Value	Matches
`watch`	array of paths	`-w`
`ext`	"js,json"	`-e`
`ignore`	array of globs	`-i`
`exec`	command string	`-x`
`delay`	milliseconds	`-d`
`verbose`	true / false	`-V`
`legacyWatch`	true / false	`-L`
`env`	object of variables	(config only)
`execMap`	extension to runner	(config only)
`events`	event to shell command	(config only)

Precedence: CLI arguments beat the local config, which beats the global one.

CONFIGURATION (cont.)

Config strings may use {{pwd}} and {{filename}}.

RECIPES

Project nodemon.json

```
{
  "watch": ["src"],
  "ext": "ts,json",
  "ignore": ["src/**/
*.spec.ts"],
  "exec": "ts-node src/
index.ts",
  "delay": 500,
  "env": { "NODE_ENV":
"development" }
}
```

Run a different language

```
nodemon --exec python3 app.py


# or map extensions in
nodemon.json
{ "execMap": { "py": "python3",
"rb": "ruby" } }
```

Run a build or test on change

```
nodemon -w src -e js --exec
"npm test"
nodemon -w src -e ts --exec
"npm run build"
```

Hook into restarts

```
{
  "events": {
    "restart": "echo restarted"
  }
}
```