

How to create and link a Google Maps API key to your account

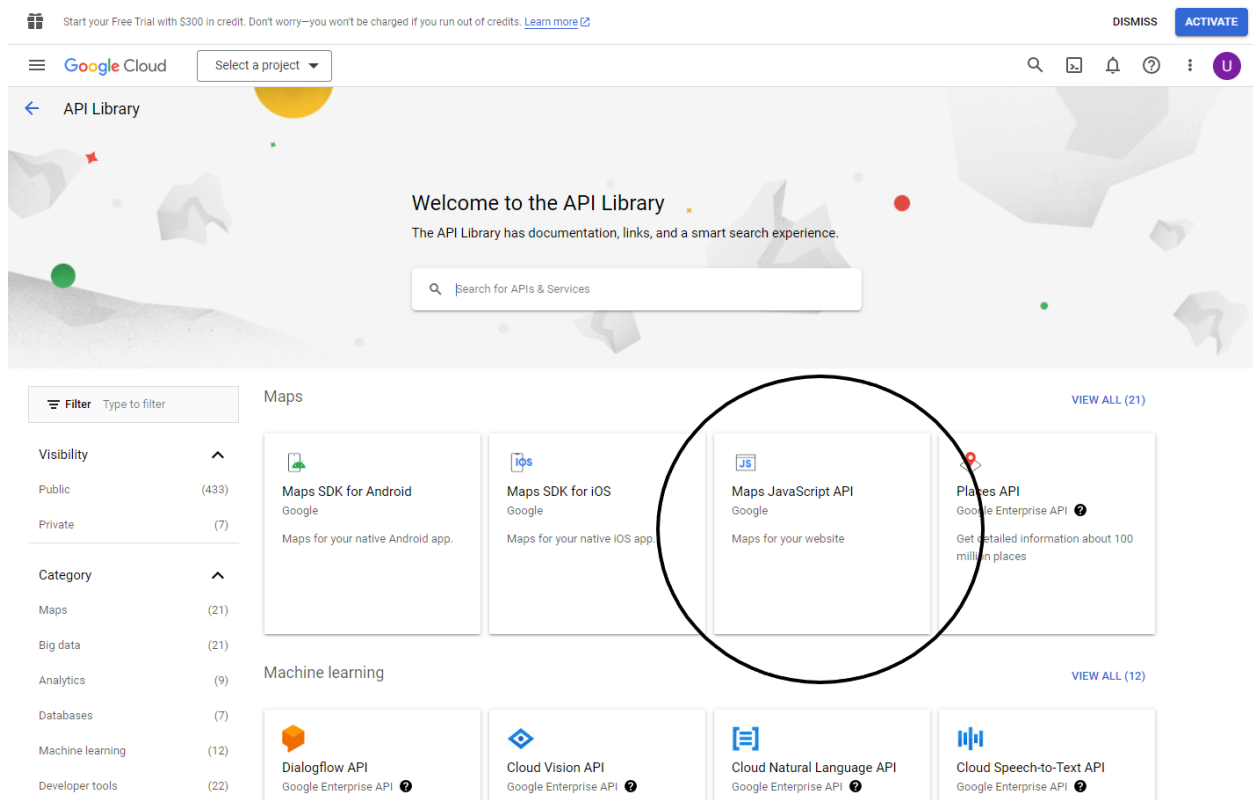
***Disclaimer*:** Google requires you to create a billing account in order to get the free \$200 USD credit per month. It is essentially impossible to exceed this limit on your own so it is unlikely you will ever get billed.

There will be steps shown at the end of this tutorial that will help prevent ever going over the free tier, but ultimately if you decide to use your own API key, the responsibility of managing your billing is on you. GeoHub is not responsible for any costs you incur using your own key.

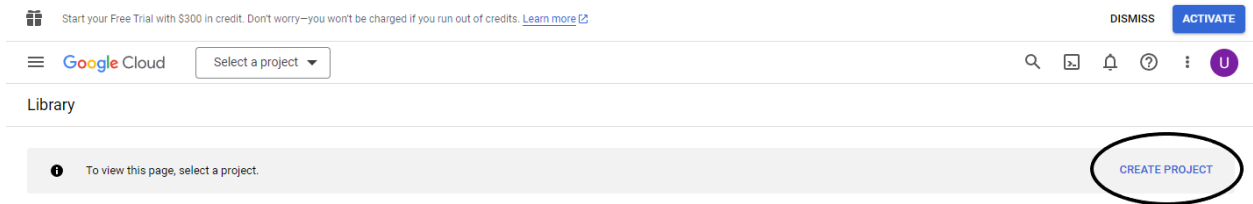
Steps to create your own Google Maps API key

Step 1: Visit the [Google Cloud API Library](#)

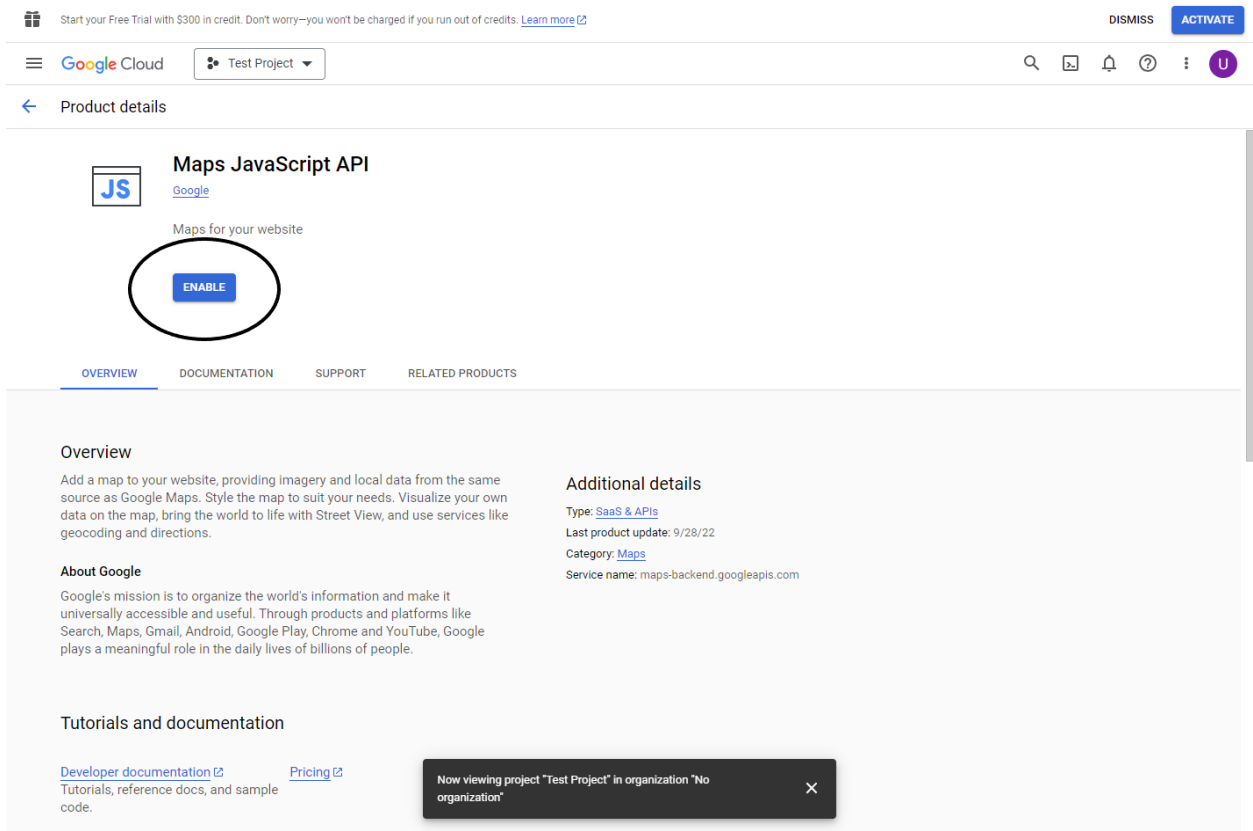
Step 2: Click on “Maps JavaScript API”



Step 3: Create a new project (If you already have an existing project, you can skip this step). Click on “Create Project” and give your project a name. Then click “Create”.



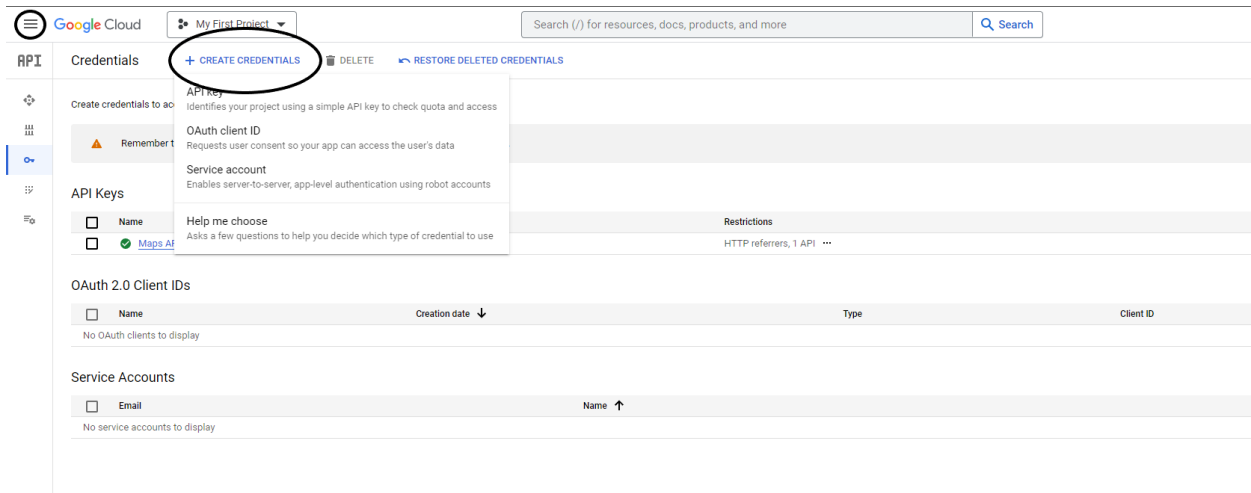
Step 4: Click “Enable” to enable the Maps JavaScript API in your new project



Step 5: You may now be asked to verify your account information and enter a payment method

Step 6: Click on the navigation menu in the top left, hover over APIs & Services until you see the popup and then click “Credentials”.

Once on the Credentials page, click on the button “Create Credentials” and choose “API key”




Step 7: Once the key is created, click on it to go to the edit page. Here you can add a restriction on the key so that only GeoHub can use your key. This way, if someone else gets a hold of the API key, they will not be able to use it. Note though, that if you share the key with someone, they can use it as their own custom key on GeoHub and it will use your credits. So only share the key with others you trust and monitor your usage even more if multiple people are using your key.

To restrict the key you want to first select “Websites” as your application restriction. Then you want to add “geohub.vercel.app” as a website restriction. Then under API restrictions, select “Restrict key” and restrict the key to only be able to use the “Maps JavaScript API”. Lastly, click “Save”.

Name *

Maps API Key

Key restrictions

Restricting where and for which APIs this key can be used helps prevent unauthorized use. [Learn more](#) 


Set an application restriction

Application restrictions limit an API key's usage to specific websites, IP addresses, Android applications, or iOS applications. You can set one application restriction per key.

- ☐ None
- ☒ Websites
- ☐ IP addresses
- ☐ Android apps
- ☐ iOS apps

Website restrictions


Restrict key usage requests to the specified websites.

 If left blank, your API key will accept requests from any website.

 ADD

 Filter Enter property name or value



<input type="checkbox"/>	Status	Website	Edit
<input type="checkbox"/>		geohub.vercel.app	

API restrictions

API restrictions specify the enabled APIs that this key can call

- ☐ Don't restrict key
This key can call any API
- ☒ Restrict key

1 API



Selected APIs:

Maps JavaScript API

Note: It may take up to 5 minutes for settings to take effect

SAVE

CANCEL

Step 8: Finally, you have to create your billing account. Click on the navigation menu and click “Billing”. You should be automatically asked to set up your billing account.

After this step is complete, your key should be ready to use! If you did not already copy it, go back to the Credentials page and copy your key. Then paste it into your account settings on GeoHub and save your changes. Now you just have to refresh the page and all future games will use your own API key.

Tips to help ensure you don't go over the free limit

Tip 1: Setup budget alerts

- Search for Budgets & alerts or find it under Billing on the navigation menu
- Create a new Budget (You would likely want to do \$200)
- Then add alert thresholds which will email you if you reach a certain percentage of your budget
- If you ever get close to your budget, you can stop playing

Tip 2: Monitor your monthly usage regularly

- Search for Reports or find under Billing on the navigation menu
- Select the current billing period and you can see how many credits you have used, the current cost for the month and the forecasted cost