

# Sending emails through Gmail API

For the following steps, make sure you're logged-in with the Gmail account you want to send emails with. **Note:** Some steps in this document differ from the steps in the linked documents to achieve the desired effect.

## 1. Create Google Cloud Platform project

Follow steps in <https://developers.google.com/workspace/guides/create-project>. When prompted, accept terms and conditions. I didn't fill the Location field described in step 4. **These steps were already carried out** for [uomeercat@gmail.com](mailto:uomeercat@gmail.com).

## 2. Enable the Gmail API

Follow the steps in [https://cloud.google.com/endpoints/docs/openapi/enable-api#enabling\\_an\\_api](https://cloud.google.com/endpoints/docs/openapi/enable-api#enabling_an_api). **These steps were already carried out** for [uomeercat@gmail.com](mailto:uomeercat@gmail.com)'s developer console.




1. In the Google Cloud console, go to APIs & services for your project.
2. On the **Library** page, click **Private APIs**. Search for Gmail API and click on it.
3. On the page that displays information about the Gmail API, click "Enable".

## 3. Create OAuth 2.0 Client ID

Follow steps in <https://developers.google.com/workspace/guides/create-credentials#oauth-client-id>. **These steps were already carried out** for [uomeercat@gmail.com](mailto:uomeercat@gmail.com) on my local machine. It might be best to create a separate OAuth 2.0 client ID for each computer meercat runs on.

1. Fill OAuth consent screen under **APIs and Services > OAuth Consent Screen**.
2. Create OAuth 2.0 Client ID.
3. Fill **OAuth consent screen**.
4. Return to steps for creating OAuth 2.0 Client ID.
5. Download OAuth credentials. The download button is highlighted in red in the following Figure. Rename downloaded file to credentials.json.

OAuth 2.0 Client IDs

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name	Creation date ↓	Type	Client ID	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	meercat	Aug 24, 2022	Web application	[REDACTED]	  

## 4. Copy quick start code and run it

Follow steps in <https://developers.google.com/gmail/api/quickstart/python>. Skip creating credentials for a desktop application. The OAuth credentials from credentials.json are used instead.

1. Copy quickstart.py into directory with credentials.json
2. Run quickstart.py. This will prompt for OAuth user access in a web browser. You must log in with uomeercat's GitHub account; it is the only user that is authorized in the OAuth consent screen. If, in the future, another gmail account is needed to send emails on behalf of MeerCAT, it will need to be added to the Test Users in the OAuth consent screen.

**NOTE:** Running quickstart on the host machine and selecting uomeercat is a one-time process.