Telegram BlackBox Setup

Getting Credentials

What Do I Need Telegram ?

The **BlackBox** sends alert notifications to you when it senses either a vibration or when an external sensor is triggered. To do this the BlackBox needs a means in order to accomplish this. Telegram is able to do this and many other things including being a secure messenger - its main purpose. So if you already have Telegram installed you are ready to follow this guide. If you do not yet have Telegram go here for all things Telegram.

Once installed **Telegram** is ready to work as a messenger but we need to get two things to make it work with the BlackBox. And that is the **Bot Token** and the **Chat ID**.

Telegram Messenger
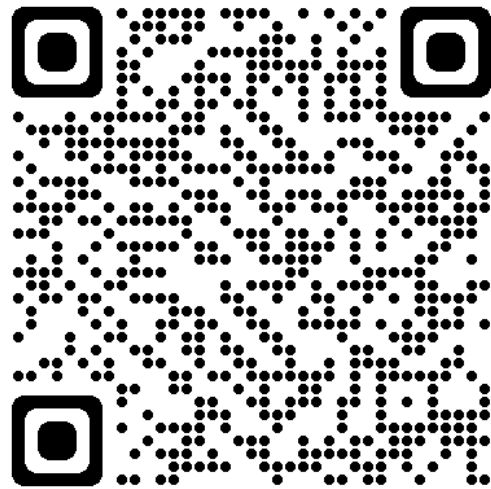# Get Your Bot Token

Bot Token

What Is The Bot Token ?

The **Telegram Bot Token** is a unique string of characters that authenticates your BlackBox with Telegram. It is a secret token that should be kept secure and not shared with anyone who does not need direct access to the BlackBox.

In simple terms, it's like a password that allows your BlackBox to communicate with Telegram servers and send messages.

Get Your Bot Token With The BotFather

Who Is The "BotFather" ?

@BotFather is a Telegram bot that allows you to create and manage other bots on the Telegram app. It is the first bot that you should contact to create a new bot on Telegram.

Here is the direct link to open the BotFather https://t.me/BotFather

You can issue the /newbot command to create a new bot and follow the instructions provided by @BotFather.

For use with the **BlackBox** we really just need the bot token from the BotFather. Any other configuration such as a profile picture and creating commands for the bot is not needed. If you feel you are proficient enough to want to make custom changes, go ahead but it's optional.
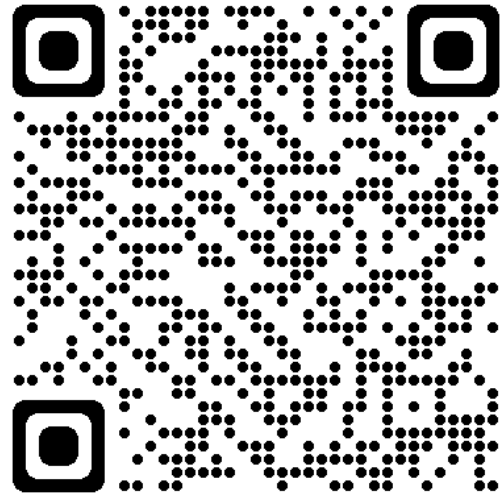
On To The Chat ID

Once you have your bot token copy it to someplace we can use it after the next step which is getting your **Chat ID**.

Telegram Messenger
Get Your Chat ID

Chat ID

What Is The Chat ID ?

The **Telegram Chat ID** is basically your id on the Telegram network, not to be confused with your username. And unlike the username the chat id is a little bit harder to see but not hard to get.

Much the same as the BotFather there is a link to get your chat id. Simply follow the instructions and your unique chat id will be shown.

Here is the direct link to open the IDBot https://t.me/myidbot

On To The Next Step

Once you have your **Chat ID, save** it where you saved the **Bot Token**. And now that we have both the token and chat id we can now use them to connect to the **BlackBox**.

Refer to the next steps in the **BlackBox Connection Guide** listed at https://github.com/KaiKai7/BlackBox. You can download either the pdf or doc file.