**Amazon API Gateway** is a fully managed service that makes it easy for developers to create, publish, maintain, monitor, and secure APIs at any scale. APIs act as the "front door" for applications to access data, business logic, or functionality from your backend services. Using API Gateway, you can create RESTful APIs and WebSocket APIs that enable real-time two-way communication applications. API Gateway supports containerized and serverless workloads, as well as web applications.

API Types

RESTful APIs

Build RESTful APIs optimized for serverless workloads and HTTP backends using HTTP APIs. [HTTP APIs](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/apigateway/latest/developerguide/http-api.html) are the best choice for building APIs that only require API proxy functionality. If your APIs require API proxy functionality and API management features in a single solution, API Gateway also offers [REST APIs](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/apigateway/latest/developerguide/http-api-vs-rest.html).

WEBSOCKET APIs

Build real-time two-way communication applications, such as chat apps and streaming dashboards, with [WebSocket APIs](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/apigateway/latest/developerguide/apigateway-websocket-api-overview.html). API Gateway maintains a persistent connection to handle message transfer between your backend service and your clients.