

Building **Alexa** Skills

By Mikaila Akeredolu

Alexa Skill Crash Course

User says: Alexa, Open Pizza King!

Alexa replies: Welcome to Pizza King.
You can get started by saying I would like to order a pizza

User says: I'd like to order a pizza

Alexa replies: Would you like a small , medium or large pizza?

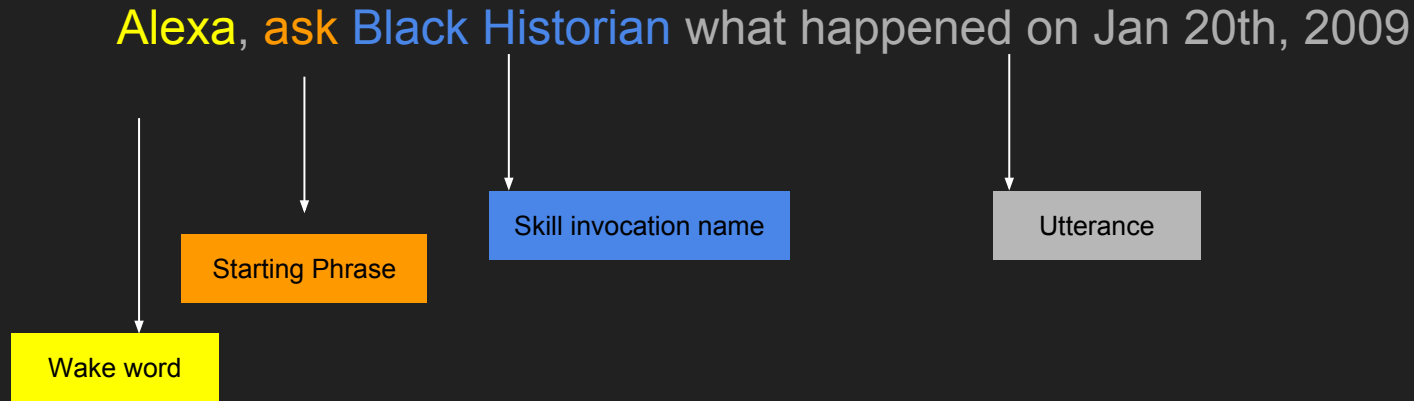


Building an Alexa Skill

All skills contain two parts: *Interaction Model* (the frontend) and the *Hosted Service* (the backend).

- Interaction Model (frontend) — Much like the graphical user interface (appearance) of a mobile app, Alexa skills need a Voice User Interface (VUI).
- We refer to the VUI as the interaction model — it defines what functionalities or behaviors the skill is able to handle.
- Hosted Service (backend) — The programming logic, hosted on the internet, that responds to a user's requests.

Interacting with an Alexa Skill



Ways to invoke / call an Alexa skill

Alexa, open (invocation Name goes here)

Alexa, tell (invocation Name goes here) to (Utterance)

Alexa, (invocation Name goes here)

Let's get Started!

Head over to : <https://developer.amazon.com/alexa>



Create a Free Account

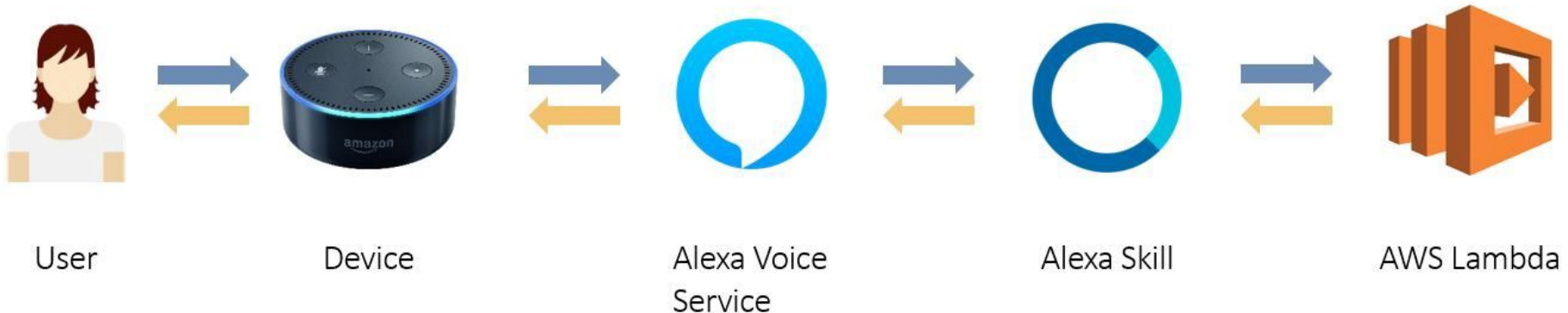
Speech Synthesis Markup Language

Think of it like HTML but for Voice. We use it to markup and add sounds, effects and more to our Voice Application. Below is an example.

```
const speechText = ` <audio  
src='soundbank://soundlibrary/transportation/amzn_sfx_car_accelerate_01'/><audio  
src='soundbank://soundlibrary/transportation/amzn_sfx_car_honk_1x_01'/> `  
  
+ ` Welcome to Car Dealer. You can ask me to suggest a car for you by  
saying something like, which car should i buy`;
```

What is AWS Lambda?

Amazon Lambda lets you run code without provisioning or managing servers. Plus you only pay for compute time that you consume. There is **NO** charge if your code is not running.



HANDLERS

```
const LaunchRequestHandler = {  
  canHandle(handlerInput) {  
    return handlerInput.requestEnvelope.request.type === 'LaunchRequest';  
  },  
  
  handle(handlerInput) {  
    const speechText = `Welcome to Pizza King You can say something like, I want to order a pizza`;  
  
    return handlerInput.responseBuilder .speak(speechText) .reprompt(speechText) .getResponse();  
  }  
};
```

ACCESSING SLOT VALUES

```
handle(handlerInput) { }  
handlerInput.requestEnvelope.request.name.value;
```

RESPONSE BUILDER

We get to respond to the user by leveraging the responseBuilder Object and its methods. Below is an example of a responseBuilder.

```
return handlerInput.responseBuilder
    .speak('Sorry, an error occurred.')
    .reprompt('Sorry, an error occurred.')
    .getResponse();
```

How to get paid

<https://developer.amazon.com/docs/in-skill-purchase/isp-faq.html>

Questions?

Let's build our first voice app!

Day One

Let's build a simple greeting app that greets a friend in a special way and Incorporate SSML

<Speech Synthesis Markup Language>

<https://github.com/MikailaAkeredolu/alexa-skill-code>

Day Two

Let's build a **Pizza Ordering App** for a Pizza Shop

<https://github.com/MikailaAkeredolu/alexa-skill-code>