

## Different APIs supported in Salesforce

ifferent APIs supported by Salesforce.com are

<b>REST API</b>	Accessing objects in your organization using REST.
<b>SOAP API</b>	Integrating your organization’s data with other applications using SOAP.
<b>Chatter REST API</b>	Accessing Chatter feeds and social data such as users, groups, followers, and files using REST.
<b>Bulk API</b>	Loading or deleting large numbers of records.
<b>Metadata API</b>	Managing customizations in your organization and building tools that can manage the metadata model, not the data itself.
<b>Streaming API</b>	Providing a stream of data reflecting data changes in your organization.
<b>Apex REST API</b>	Building your own REST API in Apex. ExposesApex classes as RESTful Web services.
<b>Apex SOAP API</b>	Creating custom SOAP Web services in Apex. Exposes Apex classes as SOAP Web services.
<b>Tooling API</b>	Building custom development tools forForce.com applications.

These APIs act as Web services interface for interacting with Salesforce.

### Simple Object Template (SOT) API

The SOT API is mainly used for ease of integration and development. It supports smaller sets of data.

### Web API

The Web API can be written in any language that supports Web services. For example, you can use SOAP API to integrate Salesforce with your organization's ERP and finance systems, deliver real-time sales and support information to company portals, and populate critical business systems with customer information.

### Chatter REST API

The Chatter REST API provides programmatic access to Chatter feeds and social data such as users, groups, followers, and files.

### Bulk API

The Bulk API is based on REST principles and is optimized for loading or deleting large sets of data. The Bulk API is designed to process data from a few thousand to millions of records. The easiest way to use Bulk API is to enable it for processing records in Data Loader using CSV files. This avoids the need to write your own client application.

### Custom Metadata API

The Custom Metadata API is used to retrieve, deploy, create, update, or delete customizations for your organization. The most common use is to migrate changes from a sandbox or testing organization to your production environment. Metadata API is intended for managing customizations and for building tools that can manage the metadata model, not the data itself. The easiest way to access the functionality in Metadata API is to use the Force.com IDE or Force.com Migration Tool.

### Streaming API

The Streaming API is used to receive notifications for changes to data that match a SOQL query that you define. The Streaming API is useful when you want notifications to be pushed from the server to the client. Consider Streaming API for applications that poll frequently. Applications that have constant polling action against the Salesforce infrastructure, consuming unnecessary API call and processing time, would benefit from this API which reduces the number of requests that return no data. Streaming API is also ideal for applications that require general notification of data changes. This enables you to reduce the number of API calls and improve performance.

### Apex REST API

Use the Apex REST API when you want to expose your Apex classes and methods so that external applications can access your code through REST architecture. Apex REST API supports both OAuth 2.0 and Session ID for authorization.

### Apex SOAP API

Use the Apex SOAP API when you want to expose your Apex methods as SOAP Web service APIs so that external applications can access your code through SOAP. Apex SOAP API supports both OAuth 2.0 and Session ID for authorization.

### Tooling API

Use the Tooling API when you want to manage and deploy working copies of Apex classes and triggers and Visualforce pages and components, set checkpoints or heap dump markers, execute anonymous Apex, and access logging and code coverage information.