**Difference between Web Services and Web API**

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| **Web services** | **Web API** |
| Web services are a type of API, which must be accessed through a network connection. | |  | | --- | | APIs are application interfaces, implying that one application can communicate with another application in a standardized manner. | |  | |
| Web service is used for REST, SOAP and XML-RPC for communication. | |  | | --- | | API is used for any style of communication. | |  | |
| All Web services are APIs. | |  | | --- | | APIs are not web services. | |  | |
| It doesn’t have lightweight design, needs a SOAP convention to send or receive data over the system. | |  | | --- | | It has a light-weight architecture furthermore, useful for gadgets which have constrained transmission capacity like smart phones. | |  | |
| It provides supports only for the HTTP protocol. | |  | | --- | | It provides support for the HTTP/s protocol: URL Request/Response Headers, and so on. | |  | |