Project Design Phase-Part 2

Date	4 November 2023
Team ID	NM2023TMID02112
Project Name	Food Tracking System
Maximum Marks	2 Marks

Third-Party APIs

When you visit a restaurant and desire to place an order, you require a waiter to deliver your food order to the kitchen and bring it to your table. Here, API works as a waiter by sending the request from your mobile app to a third-party system and delivering the result back to the app. API is also known as an application programming interface which is a defined way to communicate between several software components with a set of subroutine definitions, protocols, and tools enabling the app to borrow functionality and data from the other apps/services.

How Do Third-Party Integrations Work?

API describes how one program interacts with another, and classes, structures, functions, and procedures are part of it. A third-party API is located on a server belonging to a 3rd party service. The developers can access its functionalities by linking to a JavaScript library or making an HTTP request to a listed URL pattern. Once the connection is made, the user's request is sent from the app to a server through API and back – it's a two-way path.

Which Third-Party APIs Play an Instrumental Role in The Success of a Food Delivery App?

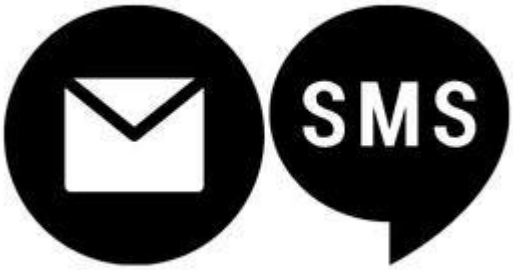
1. Google Maps

It is a prominent geolocation API, especially for third-party API in Android devices. Google Maps are extensively used across several industries, but it plays a pivotal role in the food delivery business. It makes it easier for the delivery person responsible for making the delivery to view the customer's address on the map and navigate to the destination using Google Maps.

2. Push Notification

This is a crucial API in the case of food delivery apps, as, without it, the users won't get to know about the ongoing special offers, discounts, coupons, or know about the status of their order. The customers and the delivery person get push notifications regarding any updates from customers or restaurants.

3. Email & SMS



With the integration of Email & SMS API, you can send text messages to your customers to inform them about offers, discounts, and food order status.

4. Payment Gateway

Today, virtually every app accepts credit card & wallet payments, and all apps are using third-party APIs as they allow them to connect to a payment gateway. So, apart from Cash on delivery, you can keep the debit/credit card option as an online payment mode. After all, it is an easy, secure, and faster way to receive payments. Payment gateways also manage refunds, changing currencies, setting up recurring charges, and regular payments. Typical connectors are Stripe, Braintree, and PayPal. And customers today prefer online payments, so it will be good for your online food delivery setup to integrate these APIs.