

Overview of Google Apps Script

Google Apps Script is a rapid application development platform that makes it fast and easy to create business applications that integrate with G Suite. You write code in modern JavaScript and have access to built-in libraries for favorite G Suite applications like Gmail, Calendar, Drive, and more. There's nothing to install—we give you a code editor right in your browser, and your scripts run on Google's servers.

If you're new to JavaScript, Codecademy offers [a number of JavaScript courses](#). (Note that these courses weren't developed by and aren't associated with Google.)

What can Apps Script do?

Apps Script is versatile. Among other things, you can:

- Add [custom menus, dialogs, and sidebars](#) to Google Docs, Sheets, and Forms.
- Write [custom functions](#) and [macros](#) for Google Sheets.
- Publish [web apps](#) — either standalone or embedded in Google Sites.
- Interact with other [Google services](#), including AdSense, Analytics, Calendar, Drive, Gmail, and Maps.
- Build [add-ons](#) to extend Google Docs, Sheets, Slides, and Forms, and publish them to the Add-on store.
- Convert an Android app into an [Android add-on](#) so that it can exchange data with a user's Google Doc or Sheet on a mobile device.
- Streamline Google Chat workflows by building a [chat bot](#).

For a quick demo of Apps Script in action, try one of our 5-minute quickstarts:

- [Menus, and Custom Functions](#): Tailor spreadsheet functions to your needs and build reports with custom Google Sheets menu items.
- [Managing Responses for Google Forms](#): Email Calendar invites and a personalized Google Doc to every user who responds to a form.

Your first script

The steps below show how to build and run a simple [standalone script](#) that creates a Google Doc and emails you a link.

Set it up

1. Visit script.google.com to open the script editor. (You'll need to be signed in to your Google account.) If this is the first time you've been to script.google.com, you'll be redirected to a page that introduces Apps Script. Click **Start Scripting** to proceed to the script editor.
2. A welcome screen will ask what kind of script you want to create. Click **Blank Project** or **Close**.
3. Delete any code in the script editor and paste in the code below.

templates/standalone/helloWorld.gs

[VIEW ON GITHUB](#)

```
/**
 * Creates a Google Doc and sends an email to the current user with a link to the doc.
 */
function createAndSendDocument() {
  // Create a new Google Doc named 'Hello, world!'
  var doc = DocumentApp.create('Hello, world!');

  // Access the body of the document, then add a paragraph.
  doc.getBody().appendParagraph('This document was created by Google Apps Script.');
```



```
  // Get the URL of the document.
  var url = doc.getUrl();

  // Get the email address of the active user - that's you.
  var email = Session.getActiveUser().getEmail();

  // Get the name of the document to use as an email subject line.
  var subject = doc.getName();

  // Append a new string to the "url" variable to use as an email body.
  var body = 'Link to your doc: ' + url;

  // Send yourself an email with a link to the document.
  GmailApp.sendEmail(email, subject, body);
}
```

4. Select the menu item **File > Save**. Name your new script and click **OK**.

Try it out

1. To execute the script, either click ► or select the menu item **Run > createAndSendDocument**.
2. A dialog box will appear and tell you that the script requires authorization. Click **Continue**. A second dialog box will then request authorization for specific Google services. Read the notice carefully, then click **Allow**.
3. A yellow bar at the top of the script editor will indicate when the script is running. When the yellow bar disappears, the script has finished.

4. Check your Gmail inbox for the new email, then click the link to open the Google Doc you created.
5. Open your Google Drive. You'll see that both the script and the document are stored there.