

Designing Proper APIs

# What Makes a Well-Designed API?

"APIs aren't just about data transfer – they're about creating smooth developer experiences."

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Engineer



Swipe Left ➞



# 1. Easy to Read & Work With

A great API feels intuitive:

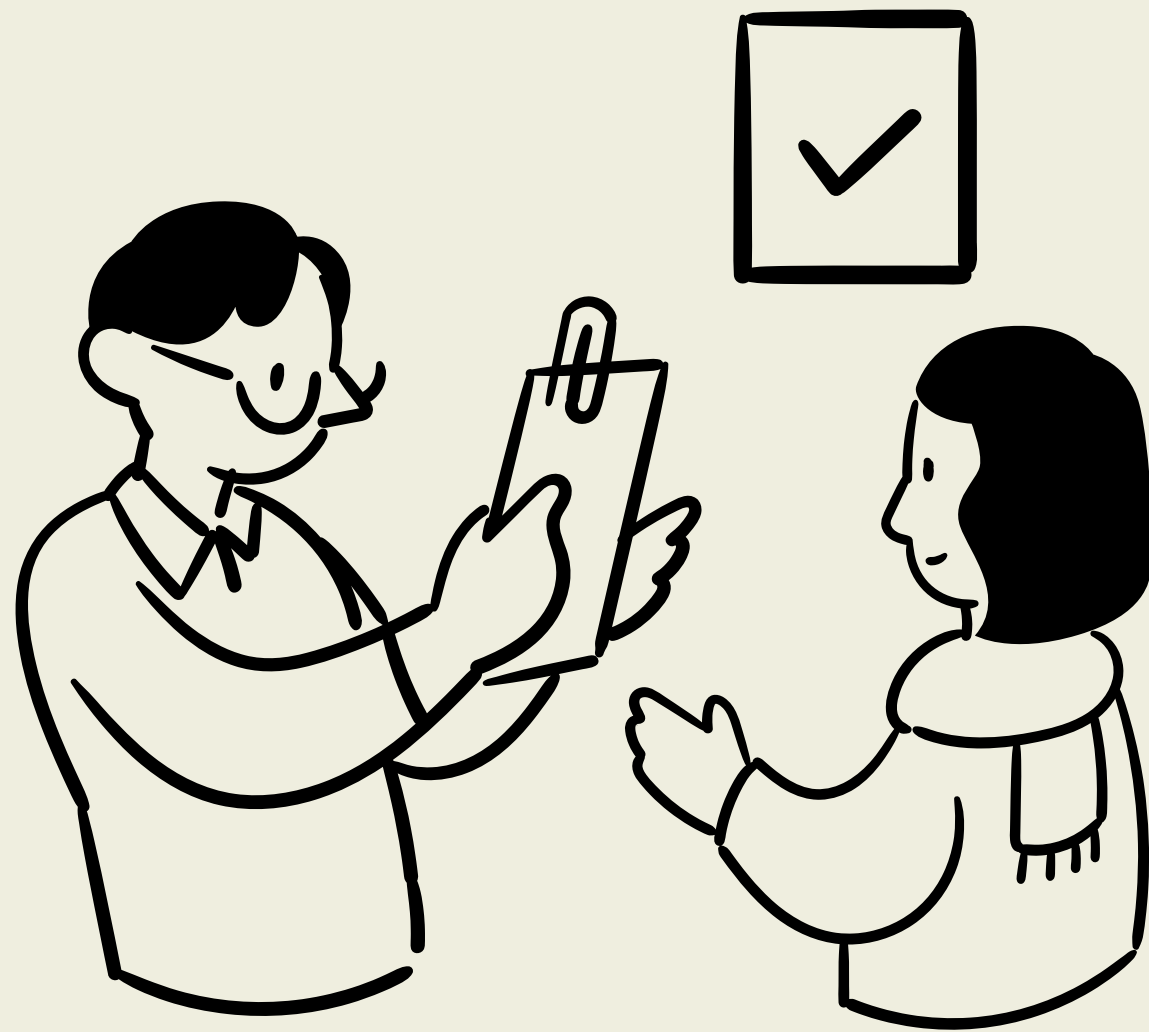
- Resources and operations are clear.
- Naming conventions are consistent.
- Developers can quickly memorize endpoints they use often. Think of it as “developer-friendly UX.”



## 2. Hard to Misuse

A safe API reduces errors:

- Straightforward integration.
- Clear request/response formats.
- Minimal room for ambiguity.
- Good design prevents mistakes before they happen.



## 3. Complete & Concise

Balance is key:

- Exposes everything users need.
- Avoids unnecessary complexity.
- Covers common use cases without bloat.

Nothing missing. Nothing extra.



## 4. Well Documented

Great docs = happier devs:

- Full coverage of functionality.
- Practical examples.
- Clear explanations of parameters and responses.



## 5. Reliable

Trust is everything:

- Always available, minimal downtime.
- Changes communicated properly.
- Predictable performance under load.