

Quick Start Guide - Invoice Generator API

Get your invoice API up and running in 10 minutes!

Prerequisites

- Python 3.11+
 - pip
 - Git (optional)
-

Installation (5 minutes)

Step 1: Clone or Download

```
bash

# Option A: Clone from Git
git clone https://github.com/yourusername/invoice-api.git
cd invoice-api

# Option B: Download and extract ZIP
# Then cd into the directory
```

Step 2: Create Virtual Environment

```
bash

# Create venv
python -m venv venv

# Activate venv
# On Linux/Mac:
source venv/bin/activate

# On Windows:
venv\Scripts\activate
```

Step 3: Install Dependencies

```
bash

pip install -r requirements.txt
```

Step 4: Configure Environment

```
bash
```

```
# Copy example env file
```

```
cp .env.example .env
```

```
# Edit .env with your settings
```

```
# Minimum required:
```

```
# - SECRET_KEY (generate a random string)
```

```
# - EMAIL_HOST, EMAIL_PORT, EMAIL_USERNAME, EMAIL_PASSWORD
```

Generate SECRET_KEY:

```
bash
```

```
python -c "import secrets; print(secrets.token_urlsafe(32))"
```

Step 5: Initialize Database

```
bash
```

```
# Create database tables
```

```
python -c "from app.database import init_db; init_db()"
```

Run the API (1 minute)

Development Mode

```
bash
```

```
uvicorn app.main:app --reload --host 0.0.0.0 --port 8000
```

Production Mode

```
bash
```

```
uvicorn app.main:app --host 0.0.0.0 --port 8000 --workers 4
```

API is now running at: <http://localhost:8000>

Test the API (4 minutes)

Option 1: Using Swagger UI (Easiest)

1. Open <http://localhost:8000/docs> in your browser
2. Click on **POST /auth/register**
3. Click "Try it out"
4. Enter your details and click "Execute"
5. Copy the response
6. Now try **POST /auth/login** to get your token
7. Click the "Authorize" button at the top
8. Paste your token and authorize
9. Now you can test all endpoints!

Option 2: Using cURL

1. Register a User

```
bash

curl -X POST http://localhost:8000/auth/register \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
-d '{
  "email": "john@example.com",
  "username": "john_doe",
  "password": "securepass123",
  "full_name": "John Doe",
  "company_name": "Freelance Pro"
}'
```

Response:

```
json

{
  "id": 1,
  "email": "john@example.com",
  "username": "john_doe",
  "payment_link": "https://pay.yourdomain.com/pay/john_doe-1",
  ...
}
```

2. Login

```
bash
```

```
curl -X POST http://localhost:8000/auth/login \  
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \  
-d '{  
  "username": "john_doe",  
  "password": "securepass123"  
'
```

Response:

```
json  
  
{  
  "access_token": "eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9...",  
  "token_type": "bearer",  
  "expires_in": 1800  
}
```

💡 **Save your token!** You'll need it for all other requests.

3. Create Your First Invoice

```
bash
```

```
TOKEN="your_token_here"
```

```
curl -X POST http://localhost:8000/invoices/generate \  
-H "Authorization: Bearer $TOKEN" \  
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \  
-d '{  
  "client_name": "ACME Corporation",  
  "client_email": "billing@acme.com",  
  "client_phone": "+212600123456",  
  "language": "ar",  
  "currency": "MAD",  
  "items": [  
    {  
      "name": "Web Development",  
      "description": "E-commerce website",  
      "quantity": 1,  
      "price": 15000  
    },  
    {  
      "name": "SEO Services",  
      "quantity": 3,  
      "price": 2000  
    }  
  ],  
  "tax_rate": 20,  
  "discount_rate": 10,  
  "notes": "Payment within 30 days"  
'
```

Response:

```
json  
  
{  
  "id": 1,  
  "invoice_number": "INV-20251002-1234",  
  "total": 22680,  
  "pdf_path": "./static/invoices/invoice_INV-20251002-1234.pdf",  
  "payment_link": "https://pay.yourdomain.com/pay/john_doe-1?invoice=INV-20251002-1234",  
  ...  
}
```

4. Download the PDF

```
bash
```

```
curl -X GET http://localhost:8000/invoices/1/download \  
-H "Authorization: Bearer $TOKEN" \  
--output my_invoice.pdf
```

Open `my_invoice.pdf` - you'll see a beautiful bilingual invoice! 🎉

5. Send Invoice by Email

```
bash
```

```
curl -X POST http://localhost:8000/invoices/1/send-email \  
-H "Authorization: Bearer $TOKEN" \  
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \  
-d '{  
  "message": "Thank you for your business!"  
'
```

🎨 What You Can Do Now

✅ Create unlimited invoices ✅ Generate professional PDFs ✅ Send invoices via email ✅ Track invoice status ✅ Get payment links with QR codes ✅ Support both Arabic and English ✅ Multiple currencies

📊 View Your Dashboard

```
bash
```

```
curl -X GET http://localhost:8000/users/me/stats \  
-H "Authorization: Bearer $TOKEN"
```

Response:

```
json

{
  "total_invoices": 1,
  "status_breakdown": {
    "draft": 1,
    "sent": 0,
    "paid": 0,
    "cancelled": 0
  },
  "total_revenue": 0,
  "pending_amount": 0
}
```

Docker Deployment (Optional)

Quick Deploy with Docker

```
bash

# Build and run
docker-compose up -d

# Check logs
docker-compose logs -f

# Stop
docker-compose down
```

Email Configuration

Using Gmail (Free)

1. Enable 2-Factor Authentication on your Gmail account
2. Generate an App Password: <https://myaccount.google.com/apppasswords>
3. Update your `.env`:

```
env

EMAIL_HOST=smtp.gmail.com
EMAIL_PORT=587
EMAIL_USE_TLS=true
EMAIL_USERNAME=your-email@gmail.com
EMAIL_PASSWORD=your-app-specific-password
EMAIL_FROM=your-email@gmail.com
```

Using SendGrid (Recommended for Production)

1. Sign up at <https://sendgrid.com> (Free tier: 100 emails/day)
2. Get your API key
3. Update your `.env`:

```
env

EMAIL_HOST=smtp.sendgrid.net
EMAIL_PORT=587
EMAIL_USERNAME=apikey
EMAIL_PASSWORD=your-sendgrid-api-key
EMAIL_FROM=noreply@yourdomain.com
```

Troubleshooting

Issue: "Module not found"

```
bash

# Make sure venv is activated
source venv/bin/activate # Linux/Mac
venv\Scripts\activate    # Windows

# Reinstall dependencies
pip install -r requirements.txt
```

Issue: "Database error"

```
bash

# Delete old database and recreate
rm invoices.db
python -c "from app.database import init_db; init_db()"
```

Issue: "Email not sending"

- Check your email credentials in `.env`
- For Gmail, make sure you're using an App Password, not your regular password
- Check spam folder

Issue: "PDF generation failed"


```
bash
```

```
# Install system dependencies (Linux)
```

```
sudo apt-get install libpango-1.0-0 libpangoft2-1.0-0
```

```
# On Mac
```

```
brew install pango
```

```
# On Windows, WeasyPrint should work out of the box
```

Next Steps

1. **Read Full Documentation:** See `API_DOCUMENTATION.md`
2. **Customize Templates:** Edit files in `app/templates/`
3. **Deploy to Production:** Use Railway, Render, or your own server
4. **Publish on RapidAPI:** Share your API with the world
5. **Add Payment Gateway:** Integrate Stripe/PayPal (coming soon)

Pro Tips

- **Save your JWT token** - it's valid for 30 minutes
- **Use environment variables** - never commit `.env` to Git
- **Test with Swagger UI** - it's the fastest way to test endpoints
- **Enable HTTPS in production** - security first!
- **Backup your database** - regularly backup `invoices.db`

Congratulations!

You now have a fully functional invoice API running! 🚀

Need help? Check the docs or open an issue on GitHub.

Happy invoicing! 📁