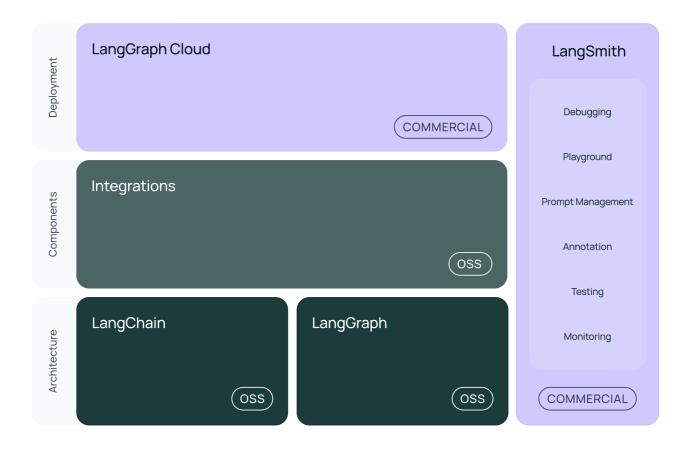# Introduction

LangChain is a framework for developing applications powered by large language models (LLMs).

LangChain simplifies every stage of the LLM application lifecycle:

- **Development**: Build your applications using LangChain's open-source building blocks, components, and third-party integrations. Use LangGraph.js to build stateful agents with first-class streaming and human-in-the-loop support.

- **Productionization**: Use LangSmith to inspect, monitor and evaluate your chains, so that you can continuously optimize and deploy with confidence.

- **Deployment**: Turn your LangGraph applications into production-ready APIs and Assistants with LangGraph Cloud.

Concretely, the framework consists of the following open-source libraries:

- `@langchain/core`: Base abstractions and LangChain Expression Language.

- `@langchain/community`: Third party integrations.

  - Partner packages (e.g. `@langchain/openai`, `@langchain/anthropic`, etc.): Some integrations have been further split into their own lightweight packages that only depend on `@langchain/core`.

- `langchain`: Chains, agents, and retrieval strategies that make up an application's cognitive architecture.

- LangGraph.js: Build robust and stateful multi-actor applications with LLMs by modeling steps as edges and nodes in a graph.

- LangSmith: A developer platform that lets you debug, test, evaluate, and monitor LLM applications.

> ⓘ **NOTE**
>
> These docs focus on the JavaScript LangChain library. Head here for docs on the Python LangChain library.

Tutorials

If you're looking to build something specific or are more of a hands-on learner, check out our tutorials. This is the best place to get started.

These are the best ones to get started with:

- Build a Simple LLM Application

- Build a Chatbot

- Build an Agent

- LangGraph.js quickstart

Explore the full list of LangChain tutorials here, and check out other LangGraph tutorials here.