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How to create NFTs that pay out royalties forever

Introducing Tatum NF(royal)Ts: the first NFTs that automatically pay the original creators a set fee every time they are transferred.

Evan Vischi May 7 · 3 min read



NFTs have taken the world by storm, as creators of all kinds are cashing in on the surging demand for one-of-a-kind digital collectibles. Many NFT marketplaces have implemented “creator share” functionality that pays creators a percentage of subsequent sales, which is a great step in the right direction. However, this functionality is only implemented on the application level, meaning as soon as the NFT leaves the marketplace on which it was created, creators will never see another penny for it again.

This is exactly why we’ve created Tatum NF(royal)Ts. By implementing royalty-payment functionality at the blockchain level, we make it possible for creators to get paid every time their NFT is transferred, for as long as it exists. While it’s still within the marketplace where it was created, the application-level creator shares apply. And even if it leaves, the built-in royalty payment mechanism will automatically pay out to the author every time it changes hands.

Note: Tatum NF(royal)Ts are primarily intended for higher-value NFTs. The royalty functionality is not currently compatible with OpenSea and must be transferred using smart contract methods not currently supported within the platform.

Tatum NF(royal)Ts are as simple to create, mint, and transfer as any other NFTs in Tatum. All it takes is a few simple API calls, no blockchain experience required.

So let’s jump right into it, shall we?

How to create, mint, and transfer Tatum NF(royal)Ts

Tatum currently supports [Ethereum](#), [Binance Smart Chain](#), and [Celo](#). In this example, we are using Celo because it is fast, cheap and you can pay for transactions with a stable coin (cUSD).

1. First, you’ll need to [sign up for a free API key](#). This will allow you to access our infrastructure and use the API endpoints below.
2. Next, you need to create and deploy the NFT. Traditionally this has taken quite a bit of effort and experience, but using Tatum, all you need is one simple API call (all calls are available for easy copy-pasting in [our guide](#)):

```
1 curl - location - request POST 'https://api-eu1.tatum.io/v3/nft/deploy' \
2 - header 'x-api-key: YOUR_API_KEY' \
3 - header 'Content-Type: application/json' \
4 - data-raw '{
5   "symbol": "COLLECTIBLE",
6   "name": "CollectibleToken",
7   "chain": "CELO",
8   "fromPrivateKey": "0x4874827a55d87f2389c55b835af509e3427aa4d52321eeb49a2b93b5c0f8edfb",
9   "feeCurrency": "CUSD"
10 }'
```

2. Once your contract has been deployed, you’ll want to mint new tokens. If you want to enable the royalty feature, you need to enter two new properties — **authorAddresses** and **cashbackValues**. You can define a list of recipients of the cashback for every subsequent transfer of the token. These values are absolute and are in the currency of the underlying blockchain. Again, just one simple API call does the trick:

3. Next, you’ll probably want to transfer your NFT from the address where it was issued to another blockchain address. This time you’ll need to include the value for the transfer transaction — the sum of all the royalties to be paid out to the authors — and the private key of the address where the tokens are located. Here’s the API call to do it:

And that’s it. Just 3 simple API calls and you can create, mint, and transfer NFTs that automatically pay out royalties forever. The benefits to creators are huge, and we believe that Tatum NF(royal)Ts will be a highly desirable feature for NFT marketplaces in the future. Those who offer automatic royalty payout functionality will be providing an attractive incentive to creators, whereas those who don’t risk falling behind.

So why not get ahead of the game and give them a try? You can build the entire backend for your marketplace with a free plan, and you’ll only have to upgrade to a paid plan if you need more than 5 API requests per second.

Sign up for a free plan [here](#).

Check out our full [Tatum NF\(royal\)T guide](#).

And have a look at our [NFT API documentation](#) to see more about the endpoints we’ve used and all of the API calls available to you.

We know you’ll do just fine, but if you need any help please feel free to reach out on our [Telegram channel](#) or hop onto the [Tatum subreddit](#).

Happy coding!

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Tatum
Tatum is a blockchain infrastructure provider that unifies multiple blockchains into one powerful framework. Our mission is to empower great software developers to build amazing blockchain apps.