

Cal.com Calendar Integration Setup Guide



Why Cal.com is Better Than Google Calendar

Say goodbye to OAuth complexity! This integration replaces Google Calendar with Cal.com's much simpler API:

Feature	Google Calendar	Cal.com API
Authentication	Complex OAuth 2.0 flow	Simple API token
Setup Time	30+ minutes	5 minutes
Credentials Files	Multiple (credentials.json, token.json)	Single API token
Token Refresh	Required every hour	Not needed
Documentation	Complex	Crystal clear
Error Handling	Frequent auth issues	Reliable



Quick Setup (5 Minutes!)

Step 1: Create Cal.com Account

1. Visit cal.com (<https://cal.com>) and sign up for a **free account**
2. Complete your profile setup
3. Create an event type for your basketball court:
 - Name: "Basketball Court Rental"
 - Duration: 60 minutes
 - Price: Set your hourly rate
 - Availability: Set to your business hours (9 AM - 9 PM)

Step 2: Generate API Token

1. **Log into your Cal.com account**
2. **Click your profile dropdown** (top right corner)
3. **Select "My Settings"**
4. **Scroll down to find "Developer" section**
5. **Click "API keys"**
6. **Click "+ Add" to create new API key**
7. **Name it:** Sports Facility Phone System
8. **Set expiry:** 1 year from now
9. **Click "Create token"**
10. **COPY THE TOKEN IMMEDIATELY** (you can't see it again!)

 **Pro Tip:** Store the API token securely - you'll need it for configuration!

Step 3: Configure Your System

1. **Copy your existing `.env` file or create from example:**

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

2. **Edit the `.env` file and add your Cal.com credentials:**

```
bash
# Cal.com Calendar Configuration
CALCOM_API_TOKEN=cal_live_XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
CALCOM_BASE_URL=https://api.cal.com/v1
CALCOM_EVENT_TYPE_ID=123456
```

3. **Find your Event Type ID:**

- Go to your Cal.com dashboard
- Click on your "Basketball Court Rental" event type
- Look at the URL: `https://app.cal.com/event-types/123456`
- The number at the end is your Event Type ID

Step 4: Test the Integration

1. **Install required dependencies** (if not already installed):

```
bash
pip install requests
```

2. **Test the connection:**

```
bash
cd /path/to/your/phone/system
python calcom_calendar_helper.py
```

You should see:

```
✓ Cal.com API connected successfully for user: your@email.com
```

1. **Start your phone system:**

```
bash
python app.py
```

Event Type Setup Best Practices

Creating Basketball Court Event Type

1. **Go to Event Types** in your Cal.com dashboard
2. **Click "New Event Type"**
3. **Configure as follows:**

Setting	Value
Event Name	Basketball Court Rental
URL Slug	basketball-court
Duration	60 minutes
Event Type	One-on-One
Locations	Your facility address
Price	Your hourly rate (e.g., \$65)
Availability	9:00 AM - 9:00 PM daily
Buffer Time	15 minutes before/after
Max Events Per Day	10

1. Advanced Settings:

- ☒ Enable "Require confirmation"
- ☒ Enable "Collect phone number"
- ☒ Enable "Send SMS notifications"
- ☒ Enable "Require payment upfront" (optional)

Additional Event Types (Optional)

Create separate event types for different services:

- **Birthday Parties** (2-3 hour duration)
- **Multi-Sport Activities** (90 minutes)
- **Team Practice** (2 hours)



Configuration Reference

Environment Variables

Variable	Description	Example
CALCOM_API_TOKEN	Your Cal.com API token	cal_live_abc123...
CALCOM_BASE_URL	Cal.com API base URL	https://api.cal.com/v1
CALCOM_EVENT_TYPE_ID	Basketball court event type ID	123456

Finding Your Event Type ID

Method 1: From URL

1. Go to Cal.com dashboard

2. Click on your event type
3. Copy ID from URL: `https://app.cal.com/event-types/[ID]`

Method 2: API Call

```
curl -X GET \
  "https://api.cal.com/v1/event-types" \
  -H "Authorization: Bearer YOUR_API_TOKEN"
```

Testing & Troubleshooting

Test API Connection

```
from calcom_calendar_helper import CalcomCalendarHelper

# Initialize helper
calendar = CalcomCalendarHelper()

# Test availability check
result = calendar.check_availability("2025-10-01 15:00", "basketball")
print("Availability:", result)

# Test booking creation (with test data)
booking = calendar.create_booking(
    "2025-10-01 15:00",
    "basketball",
    "+15551234567",
    65.0,
    customer_name="Test Customer"
)
print("Booking:", booking)
```

Common Issues & Solutions

“Cal.com API token not found”

Problem: Environment variable not set correctly

Solution:

1. Check your `.env` file exists in the project root
2. Verify `CALCOM_API_TOKEN` is set correctly
3. Restart your application after changing `.env`

“API connection issue: 401”

Problem: Invalid or expired API token

Solution:

1. Generate a new API token in Cal.com settings
2. Update your `.env` file
3. Make sure token starts with `cal_live_` or `cal_test_`

“Event type not found”

Problem: Wrong Event Type ID

Solution:

1. Go to your Cal.com dashboard
2. Click on your basketball court event type
3. Copy the correct ID from the URL
4. Update `CALCOM_EVENT_TYPE_ID` in `.env`

✗ “No available slots”

Problem: Event type availability not configured

Solution:

1. Go to your event type settings
2. Set availability hours (9 AM - 9 PM)
3. Enable the event type
4. Check for date-specific overrides



Monitoring & Logs

Check System Health

Your phone system now includes improved logging:

```
# The CalcomCalendarHelper logs all API interactions
# Check your console output for:
✓ Cal.com API connected successfully for user: your@email.com
⚠ Cal.com API connection issue: 429 (rate limit)
✗ Cal.com API connection failed: Invalid token
```

API Rate Limits

Cal.com has reasonable rate limits:

- **Free Plan:** 100 requests/hour
- **Pro Plan:** 1,000 requests/hour
- **Enterprise:** Custom limits

For a typical phone system, free plan is usually sufficient!



Advanced Features

Multiple Event Types

You can easily support different services by creating multiple event types:

```
# In your .env file:
CALCOM_BASKETBALL_EVENT_TYPE_ID=123456
CALCOM_BIRTHDAY_EVENT_TYPE_ID=789012
CALCOM_MULTISPORT_EVENT_TYPE_ID=345678

# In your code:
event_type_map = {
  'basketball': os.getenv('CALCOM_BASKETBALL_EVENT_TYPE_ID'),
  'birthday_party': os.getenv('CALCOM_BIRTHDAY_EVENT_TYPE_ID'),
  'multi_sport': os.getenv('CALCOM_MULTISPORT_EVENT_TYPE_ID')
}
```

Webhook Integration

Cal.com supports webhooks for real-time updates:

1. Go to your Cal.com account settings
2. Navigate to “Webhooks”
3. Add webhook URL: `https://your-domain.com/calcom-webhook`
4. Select events: booking created, cancelled, rescheduled

Payment Integration

Cal.com integrates with Stripe automatically:

1. Connect your Stripe account in Cal.com settings
2. Set prices on your event types
3. Enable “Require payment upfront”
4. Payments are processed automatically!



Migration from Google Calendar

What Changes

- **✓ Authentication:** Much simpler (just API token)
- **✓ Setup:** 5 minutes vs 30+ minutes
- **✓ Reliability:** Better uptime and fewer auth errors
- **✓ Features:** Built-in booking system features

What Stays the Same

- **✓ Your phone system code:** No changes needed!
- **✓ Customer experience:** Same booking flow
- **✓ All functionality:** Availability, bookings, alternatives

Migration Steps

1. **Keep Google Calendar running** (for safety)
2. **Set up Cal.com** following this guide
3. **Test thoroughly** with the test scripts
4. **Switch environment variables** to Cal.com
5. **Monitor for a few days**
6. **Deactivate Google Calendar** once confident



Best Practices

Security

- **🔒 Never commit** API tokens to git
- **🔒 Use environment variables** for all secrets
- **🔒 Regenerate tokens** annually
- **🔒 Monitor API usage** for unusual activity

Performance

- **⚡ Cache availability** for frequently requested times

- ⚡ **Use batch requests** when possible
- ⚡ **Implement retry logic** for API failures
- ⚡ **Monitor response times** and optimize

User Experience

- 📱 **Send SMS confirmations** for bookings
- 📱 **Include booking URLs** in confirmations
- 📱 **Allow easy rescheduling** via Cal.com links
- 📱 **Collect customer feedback** on booking experience

📞 Support

Cal.com Support

- **Documentation:** cal.com/docs (<https://cal.com/docs>)
- **Community:** [Discord](https://discord.com/invite/gfcVXqN4G9) (<https://discord.com/invite/gfcVXqN4G9>)
- **Email:** support@cal.com

Phone System Support

- **Check logs** first for error details
- **Test API connection** using provided scripts
- **Verify environment variables** are set correctly
- **Review this guide** for common solutions

🎉 **Congratulations!** You've successfully replaced complex Google Calendar OAuth with simple Cal.com API integration. Your phone system is now easier to maintain and more reliable!

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