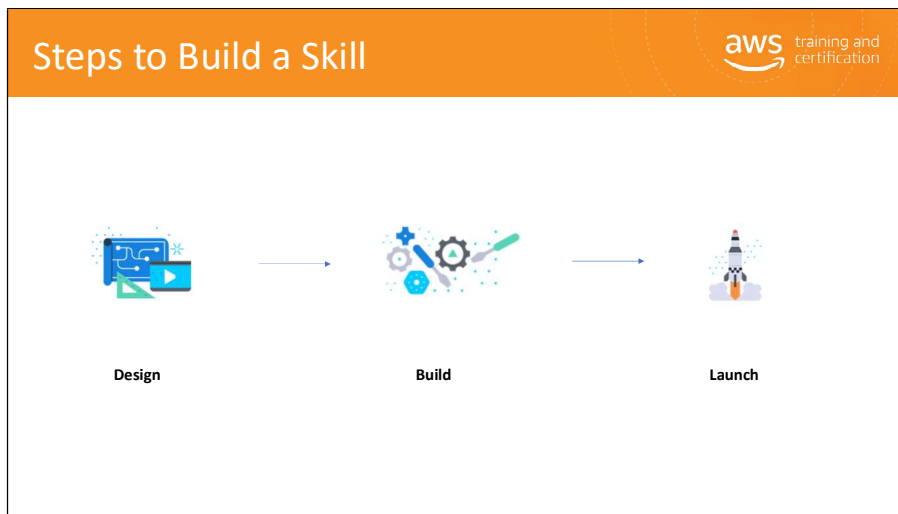


Steps to build a skill



Start building your skills with the **Alexa Skills Kit (ASK)** with these **three** steps.

1. **Design:** You begin by designing the **voice interaction model** of your skill. Once you start designing, you will quickly come to understand that designing for voice is a lot different than designing mobile or web based apps.

You need to think about all the **different ways your customers might interact with your voice app**.

To provide a fluid and natural voice experience, it is very important that you **script and then act out** the different ways customers might talk to Alexa while using your voice app. Here are some tools and resources to help you design for voice:

<https://developer.amazon.com/alexa-skills-kit/design>

Also remember, if you have a **multi-modal experience (voice and visual)**, you will again need to think of different ways of workflows to navigate through your app.

2. **Build:** Once your interaction model is ready, you build the **utterances, intents** and **slots** that form your interaction model, in the **Alexa Developer Console**.

The interaction model is saved in the **JSON** format and you have the option to edit it via any edit tool.

After your JSON interaction model is ready, you start building the backend **AWS Lambda function** in the AWS Management Console.

You choose the programming language of your choice for your AWS Lambda function and the corresponding ASK SDK and begin coding your skill.

The programming languages supported by Lambda are **Node.js, Java, Python, C#, or Go**.

You can build and host most skills for free with AWS Lambda, which is free for the first one million calls per month.

Once the backend Lambda function is ready, you integrate the Lambda function to your skill and test it the Alexa Developer Console.

There is a **built-in Alexa simulator** which is very similar to testing it on an actual device. Here are some tools and resources to help you build:

<https://developer.amazon.com/alexa-skills-kit/build>

3. **Launch:** After you have tested your skill, you **submit the skill for certification**. Once your skill passes certification, it will be published in the **Alexa Skills Store** for anyone to discover and use. You can find more details here:

<https://developer.amazon.com/alexa-skills-kit/launch>