



TMDB API Configuration Guide

This document explains how to configure **The Movie Database (TMDB) API** for the **MDB: Movie Database** project.



What is TMDB?

TMDB (The Movie Database) is a popular, user-driven database for movies and TV shows. The **MDB** app uses TMDB's REST API to fetch movie data, images, and other media details.



Steps to Get Your TMDB API Key

1. Create a TMDB Account

Sign up for a free TMDB account at <https://www.themoviedb.org/signup>.

2. Apply for an API Key

Log in to your TMDB account.

Visit <https://www.themoviedb.org/settings/api>.

Click **“Create”** to apply for a new API key.

Follow the instructions to provide details about your project.

Once approved, you will receive a **v3 API Key** and an optional **v4 Access Token**.



Which Key Do I Use?

Use the **v3 API Key** for most REST API requests. Use the **v4 Access Token** only if you prefer OAuth-based requests. For this project, the **v3 API Key** is sufficient.



How to Add Your API Key to the Project

You **must never commit API keys directly into your source code**. Use **environment files** instead.



1. Add your key to environment files

Development:

```
// src/environments/environment.ts
export const environment = {
  production: false,
```

```
tmdbApiKey: 'YOUR_TMDB_API_KEY_HERE'  
};
```

Production:

```
// src/environments/environment.prod.ts  
export const environment = {  
  production: true,  
  tmdbApiKey: 'YOUR_TMDB_API_KEY_HERE'  
};
```

Note: Never commit your actual API keys to version control.

✅ 2. Access the key in your services

```
import { environment } from '../environments/environment';  
  
const TMDB_API_KEY = environment.tmdbApiKey;
```

Use this variable to construct your API URLs:

```
const url = `https://api.themoviedb.org/3/movie/popular?api_key=${TMDB_API_KEY}`;
```

🔒 Keep It Secure

- Add `environment.ts` and `environment.prod.ts` to `.gitignore` if you plan to manage them locally.
- If deploying to Vercel, Netlify, or Firebase, store the key as an **environment variable** in the host's dashboard and inject it during build.

🔗 TMDB API References

- [TMDB: Getting Started](#)
- [TMDB API Docs](#)

✅ Test Your Configuration

Run a simple fetch to test:

```
fetch(`https://api.themoviedb.org/3/movie/popular?api_key=YOUR_TMDB_API_KEY`)  
  .then(response => response.json())
```

```
.then(data => console.log(data));
```

Important

Misuse of your API key may result in your TMDB account being blocked. Keep your keys secure and do not expose them publicly.

Support

For TMDB API support, visit the [TMDB Developer Docs](#) or [TMDB Developer Community](#).

Happy coding! 🎬 ✨