

Resource Writeup: OMDb API Documentation

Introduction

OMDb (Open Movie Database) API is a RESTful web service that obtains data from the IMDb (Internet Movie Database), Rotten Tomatoes, and Metacritic. This API allows users to gain detailed information about a movie indicated by title or valid IMDb ID (at least one argument is required). The contents of the web service are contributed and maintained by its users. Users are encouraged to become a patron or make a one-time donation, but it is not required to use the data from OMDb API. The OMDb API can be accessed with an API Key authentication and returns data in either XML or JSON format. There is a 1,000 daily limit for using it for free. Users can easily generate an API key by entering their account type (indicating whether they are a patron or not) and email.

Here is the OMDb API link: <http://www.omdbapi.com/>.

How to Use

- Send all data requests to: [http://www.omdbapi.com/?apikey=\[apikeyhere\]&](http://www.omdbapi.com/?apikey=[apikeyhere]&)
- There are two ways to set up the parameters ("By ID or Title" versus "By Search"). Both ways require a movie title (one can use a valid IMDb ID).

By ID or Title

Parameter	Required	Valid Options	Default Value	Description
i	Optional*		<empty>	A valid IMDb ID (e.g. tt1285016)
t	Optional*		<empty>	Movie title to search for.
type	No	movie, series, episode	<empty>	Type of result to return.
y	No		<empty>	Year of release.
plot	No	short, full	short	Return short or full plot.
r	No	json, xml	json	The data type to return.
callback	No		<empty>	JSONP callback name.
v	No		1	API version (reserved for future use).

*Please note while both "i" and "t" are optional at least one argument is required.

Source: <http://www.omdbapi.com/>

By Search

Parameter	Required	Valid options	Default Value	Description
s	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<empty>	Movie title to search for.
type	<input type="checkbox"/>	movie, series, episode	<empty>	Type of result to return.
y	<input type="checkbox"/>		<empty>	Year of release.
r	<input type="checkbox"/>	json, xml	json	The data type to return.
page New!	<input type="checkbox"/>	1-100	1	Page number to return.
callback	<input type="checkbox"/>		<empty>	JSONP callback name.
v	<input type="checkbox"/>		1	API version (reserved for future use).

Source: <http://www.omdbapi.com/>

● Example Outputs

- Tip: the outputs for movie search by title versus IMDb ID are the same, so it can be better to movie search by title than IMDb ID to avoid looking up the ID for a movie.
- Movie search by title: “The Lion King”

By Title

Title: Year: Plot: Response:

Request:

<http://www.omdbapi.com/?t=The+Lion+King>

Response:

```
{
  "Title": "The Lion King",
  "Year": "1994",
  "Rated": "G",
  "Released": "24 Jun 1994",
  "Runtime": "88 min",
  "Genre": "Animation, Adventure, Drama, Family, Musical",
  "Director": "Roger Allers, Rob Minkoff",
  "Writer": "Irene Mecchi (screenplay by), Jonathan Roberts (screenplay by), Linda Woolverton (screenplay by), Burny Mattinson (story), Barry Johnson (story), Lorna Cook (story), Thom Enriquez (story), Andy Gaskill (story), Gary Trousdale (story), Jim Capobianco (story), Kevin Harkey (story), Jorgen Klubien (story), Chris Sanders (story), Tom Sito (story), Larry Leker (story), Joe Ranft (story), Rick Maki (story), Ed Gombert (story), Francis Glebas (story), Mark Kausler (story), J.T. Allen (additional story material), George Scribner (additional story material), Miguel Tejada-Flores (additional story material), Jenny Tripp (additional story material), Bob Tzudiker (additional story material), Christopher Vogler (additional story material), Kirk Wise (additional story material), Noni White (additional story material), Brenda Chapman (story supervisor)",
  "Actors": "Rowan Atkinson, Matthew Broderick, Niketa Calame-Harris, Jim Cummings",
  "Plot": "A Lion cub crown prince is tricked by a treacherous uncle into thinking he caused his father's death and flees into exile in despair, only to learn in adulthood his identity and his responsibilities.",
  "Language": "English, Swahili, Xhosa, Zulu",
  "Country": "USA",
  "Awards": "Won 2 Oscars. Another 33 wins & 29 nominations.",
  "Poster": "https://m.media-amazon.com/images/M/MV5BYTYxNGMyZTYtMjE3MS00MzNjLWFjNmYtMDk3N2FmM2JlM2M1XkEyXkFqcGdeQXVyNjY5NDU4NzI@._V1_SX300.jpg",
  "Ratings": [
    {
      "Source": "Internet Movie Database",
      "Value": "8.5/10"
    },
    {
      "Source": "Rotten Tomatoes",
      "Value": "93%"
    },
    {
      "Source": "Metacritic",
      "Value": "88/100"
    }
  ],
  "Metascore": "88",
  "imdbRating": "8.5",
  "imdbVotes": "869,323",
  "imdbID": "tt0110357",
  "Type": "movie",
  "DVD": "07 Oct 2003",
  "BoxOffice": "$94,240,635",
  "Production": "Buena Vista",
  "Website": "N/A",
  "Response": "True"
}
```

Source: <http://www.omdbapi.com/>

- Movie search by IMDb ID: "tt0110357" (which is also "The Lion King")

By ID

ID: Plot: Response:

Request:

<http://www.omdbapi.com/?i=tt0110357>

Response:

```
{
  "Title": "The Lion King",
  "Year": "1994",
  "Rated": "G",
  "Released": "24 Jun 1994",
  "Runtime": "88 min",
  "Genre": "Animation, Adventure, Drama, Family, Musical",
  "Director": "Roger Allers, Rob Minkoff",
  "Writer": "Irene Mecchi (screenplay by), Jonathan Roberts (screenplay by), Linda Woolverton (screenplay by), Burny Mattinson (story), Barry Johnson (story), Lorna Cook (story), Thom Enriquez (story), Andy Gaskill (story), Gary Trousdale (story), Jim Capobianco (story), Kevin Harkey (story), Jorgen Klubien (story), Chris Sanders (story), Tom Sito (story), Larry Leker (story), Joe Ranft (story), Rick Maki (story), Ed Gombert (story), Francis Glebas (story), Mark Kausler (story), J.T. Allen (additional story material), George Scribner (additional story material), Miguel Tejada-Flores (additional story material), Jenny Tripp (additional story material), Bob Tzudiker (additional story material), Christopher Vogler (additional story material), Kirk Wise (additional story material), Noni White (additional story material), Brenda Chapman (story supervisor)",
  "Actors": "Rowan Atkinson, Matthew Broderick, Niketa Calame-Harris, Jim Cummings",
  "Plot": "A Lion cub crown prince is tricked by a treacherous uncle into thinking he caused his father's death and flees into exile in despair, only to learn in adulthood his identity and his responsibilities.",
  "Language": "English, Swahili, Xhosa, Zulu",
  "Country": "USA",
  "Awards": "Won 2 Oscars. Another 33 wins & 29 nominations.",
  "Poster": "https://m.media-amazon.com/images/M/MV5BYTYxNGMyZTYtMjE3MS00MzNjLWFjNmYtMDk3N2FmM2JlM2M1XkEyXkFqcGdeQXVyNjY5NDU4NzI@._V1_SX300.jpg",
  "Ratings": [
    {
      "Source": "Internet Movie Database",
      "Value": "8.5/10"
    },
    {
      "Source": "Rotten Tomatoes",
      "Value": "93%"
    },
    {
      "Source": "Metacritic",
      "Value": "88/100"
    }
  ],
  "Metascore": "88",
  "imdbRating": "8.5",
  "imdbVotes": "869,323",
  "imdbID": "tt0110357",
  "Type": "movie",
  "DVD": "07 Oct 2003",
  "BoxOffice": "$94,240,635",
  "Production": "Buena Vista",
  "Website": "N/A",
  "Response": "True"
}
```

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OMDb API Applications

- Python library for the OMDb API
 - Requires Python 2.0.1 or newer.
 - `pip install omdb`
 - <https://pypi.org/project/omdb/>
 - Here is a link to the omdb documentation: <https://readthedocs.org/projects/omdbpy/downloads/pdf/latest/>
 - Requires Python 3.7 or newer. To works with python 3.6 must install version 0.5.1.
 - `pip install omdbapi`
 - <https://github.com/dubirajara/omdbapi>
- A movie information generator that outputs a movie's title, released year, plot, runtime, genre, director, actors, rewards, ratings, and website.
 - https://github.com/SubhamPaul21/Python_Projects/blob/master/Movie_Info_Scraper_OMBD_API.py
 - Here is a youtube video tutorial: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vf_wx3mLBII
- A movie ratings comparison tool
 - The movie search by title provides ratings from three different sources: Internet Movie Database, Rotten Tomatoes, and Metacritic. The application could compare these ratings by displaying each rating and finding the mean rating score.
- To create more meaningful applications, use the OMDb API with other APIs that return the movie titles (or IMDb IDs). The OMDb API provides more information on individual movie title (or IMDb ID) searches.