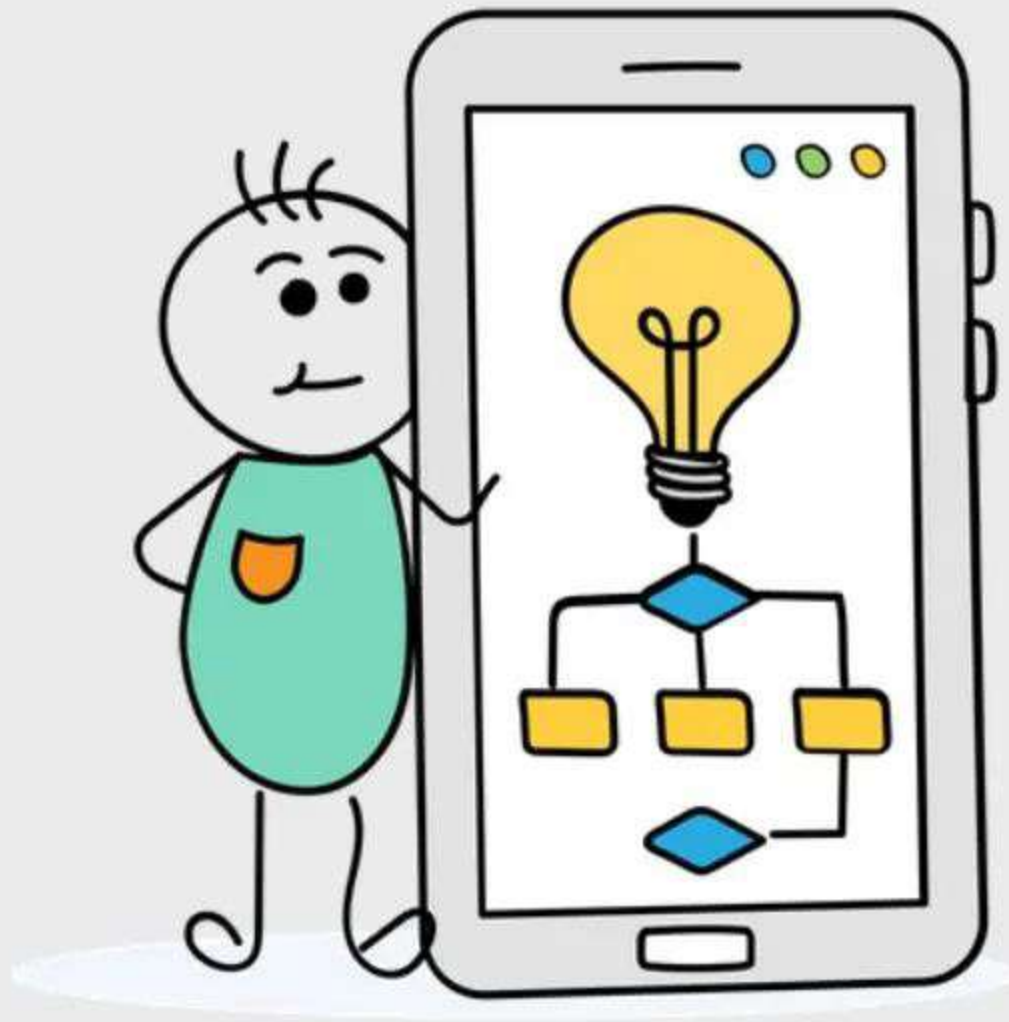# All About APIs

You must know

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👉 API is the acronym for **Application Programming Interface**, which is a software **intermediary** that allows two applications to talk to each other.

👉 It is essentially a **messenger** that takes requests, translates, and returns responses.

👉 Every action you take on your phone, like sending a direct message or checking the score of the baseball game, uses an API to **access and deliver** that information.
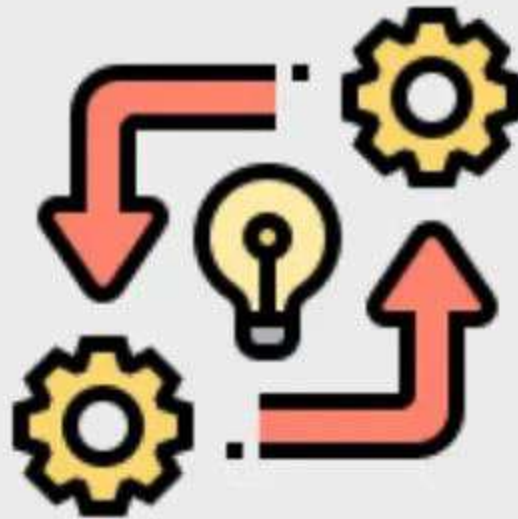
👉 When you use an application on your mobile phone, the application connects to the **Internet** and sends data to a server.

👉 The server then retrieves that data, interprets it, performs the necessary actions, and sends it back to your phone.

👉 This is what an API is - **all of this happens via API.**

👉 **Let's take an example** - When you sit down to order at a restaurant, the waiter takes your order, relays it to the kitchen, and returns with your food.

👉 In this scenario, the waiter acts as the **API**, or **intermediary**.

There are four types of API actions:

👉 **1. GET**: requests data from a server.

👉 **2. POST**: sends new information to a server.

👉 **3. PUT**: makes changes to existing data on a server.

👉 **4. DELETE**: removes existing information from a server.

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Remember 💡

👉 APIs are behind the scenes, but they are largely responsible for all of the interactivity.