Get started

Introduction

# Introduction

**LangChain** is a framework for developing applications powered by language models. It enables applications that are:

- Data-aware: connect a language model to other sources of data
- Agentic: allow a language model to interact with its environment

The main value props of LangChain are:

- Components: abstractions for working with language models, along with a collection of implementations for each abstraction. Components are modular and easy-to-use, whether you are using the rest of the LangChain framework or not
- 2. **Off-the-shelf chains**: a structured assembly of components for accomplishing specific higher-level tasks

Off-the-shelf chains make it easy to get started. For more complex applications and nuanced use-cases, components make it easy to customize existing chains or build new ones.

## **Get started**

Here's how to install LangChain, set up your environment, and start building.

We recommend following our Quickstart guide to familiarize yourself with the framework by building your first LangChain application.

**Note**: These docs are for the LangChain Python package. For documentation on LangChain.js, the JS/TS version, head here.

# **Modules**

LangChain provides standard, extendable interfaces and external integrations for the following modules, listed from least to most complex:

#### Model I/O

Interface with language models

#### **Data connection**

Interface with application-specific data

### **Chains**

Construct sequences of calls

#### **Agents**

Let chains choose which tools to use given high-level directives

#### Memory

Persist application state between runs of a chain

#### **Callbacks**

Log and stream intermediate steps of any chain

# Examples, ecosystem, and resources

### **Use cases**

Walkthroughs and best-practices for common end-to-end use cases, like:

- Chatbots
- · Answering questions using sources
- Analyzing structured data
- and much more...

### **Guides**

Learn best practices for developing with LangChain.

## **Ecosystem**

LangChain is part of a rich ecosystem of tools that integrate with our framework and build on top of it. Check out our growing list of integrations and dependent repos.

## **Additional resources**

Our community is full of prolific developers, creative builders, and fantastic teachers. Check out YouTube tutorials for great tutorials from folks in the community, and Gallery for a list of awesome LangChain projects, compiled by the folks at KyroLabs.

## **Support**

Join us on GitHub or Discord to ask questions, share feedback, meet other developers building with LangChain, and dream about the future of LLM's.

# **API reference**

Head to the reference section for full documentation of all classes and methods in the LangChain Python package.