

What is an API?

An API (Application Programming Interface) is a set of rules that allows different software applications to communicate and share data. It abstracts the complexity of underlying systems, providing a standardized interface for integration.

Example

For instance, a mapping app uses a maps API to fetch and display location data. The API handles the data retrieval, allowing the app to show maps without directly accessing map databases.





How are HTTP status codes categorized in APIs, and what are some examples of each category?







1xx (Informational):

- 100 Continue: The initial part of a request has been received and the client should continue with the request.
- 102 Processing: The server has received and is processing the request, but no response is available yet.





2xx (Successful):

- 200 OK: The request was successful, and the server has returned the requested data.
- **201 Created:** The request was successful, and a new resource was created.
- 204 No Content: The request was successful, but there is no content to return.
- 205 Reset Content: The server successfully processed the request, and the client should reset the view.
- 206 Partial Content: The server is delivering only part of the resource due to a range header sent by the client.





3xx (Redirection):

- **301 Moved Permanently:** The resource has been permanently moved to a new URL.
- 302 Found: The resource has been temporarily moved to a different URL.
- 307 Temporary Redirect: The resource has been temporarily moved to a different URL, and the client should use the same method for future requests.
- 308 Permanent Redirect: The resource has been permanently moved to a new URL, and future requests should use this URL.





4xx (Client Error):

- 400 Bad Request: The server could not understand the request due to invalid syntax.
- **401 Unauthorized:** Authentication is required, or the provided credentials are invalid.
- **403 Forbidden:** The server understands the request but refuses to authorize it.
- 404 Not Found: The requested resource could not be found on the server.
- 408 Request Timeout: The server timed out waiting for the request from the client.
- **429 Too Many Requests:** The user has sent too many requests in a given amount of time.



API

5xx (Server Error):

- **500 Internal Server Error:** The server encountered an unexpected condition that prevented it from fulfilling the request.
- **502 Bad Gateway:** The server received an invalid response from an upstream server.
- **503 Service Unavailable:** The server is currently unable to handle the request due to temporary overload or maintenance.
- 504 Gateway Timeout: The server did not receive a timely response from an upstream server.

