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Available APIs

An API, also known as an Application Programming Interface, allows different software programs to borrow and share information. It's a set of rules and protocols that define how different applications can interact. APIs are used to make it easier for developers to connect their programs with other services or systems, such as social media platforms, information databases, or mapping services. They help developers save time and effort by providing functions and tools that can be used to build new applications or add features to existing ones. APIs are important for creating connections between software applications, enabling them to work together and provide more functionality to users. The APIs I found are tools that are mostly meant for serious use on a website. Each of these services has dedicated webpages that give instructions and sample code that shows how the service should be used. While the sample code is difficult to understand, it’s useful for building good fundamentals on APIs through tinkering.

Here are the ten APIs I found:

**Reddit**: Allows for more customization with your browsing experience which can make it more personalized for the user. Some apps even use the API to make a better browsing experience than the main app provided by Reddit. However, Reddit plans to make the API fee too expensive to prevent apps from being taken away from the main one.

**Twitter:** Used by many websites, especially news articles, this API provides the ability to preview tweets, profiles, and current world trends. You would want to use this API in any page that cites a tweet or to advertise your personal account.

**Facebook:** Much like Twitter, the Facebook API allows developers to access and interact with Facebook features such as posting updates, retrieving user information, and using likes and comments. Also, It allows developers to build applications that integrate with Facebook, access user data, and create engaging experiences within their own apps or websites. You would want to use this API on your website when you want to reference content available on Facebook with some of its features.

**Discord**: This app is popular for good reasons as it allows users to communicate with friends and customize servers effectively and freely. The API allows users to develop bots that can do a multitude of things like edit pictures or play music from YouTube in the voice channel.

**Google Maps**: When browsing the web, you’ll notice that small businesses almost always have google maps on their web page. They do this to show the location of the business and allow the user to use Maps to be able to navigate easier. Depending on the amount of traffic on the website, you might need to pay to keep using the unique API key given from Google.

**Spotify:** Currently this platform is the most widely used for streaming music at a cheap price. This API allows websites to link songs that can be played and gives access to user information such as their most played songs. You would want to use the Spotify API when you want to link a song to reference and listen to.

**GIPHY:** A popular website that provides users with millions of images and gifs for free. GIPHY API allows users to query the website to find certain gifs on their webpage. Some cases of this being used is on mobile phones through texting. On my Android, the messaging app has a giphy option and you can search for certain gifs.

**Amazon:** One of the most popular websites in the world to purchase items of any kind for home delivery online. The free API, Amazon Product Advertising, lets the website access any product information such as price, description, and customer reviews.

**GitHub API:** Provides developers with access to GitHub's repo features, allowing version control, issue tracking, and collaboration. For developers, this API is most useful for a personal website such as a project or a web journal.

**Polygon:** This API helps with any information related to the financial market such as stocks and crypto.