



## Documentation

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The Alias call has the following fields:

FIELD		TYPE	DESCRIPTION
userId		String	The <b>userId</b> is a string that will be the user's new identity, or an existing identity that you wish to merge with the <b>previousId</b> . See the <a href="#">User ID docs</a> for more detail.
previousId	optional	String	The <b>previousId</b> is the existing ID you've referred to the user by. It might be an Anonymous ID assigned to that user or a User ID you previously identified them with using Segment's <a href="#">Identify</a> call.
options	optional	Object	A dictionary of options. For example, <a href="#">enable or disable specific destinations</a> for the call.
callback	optional	Function	A function that is executed after a timeout of 300 ms, giving the browser time to make outbound requests first.

The Alias method follows the format below:

```
analytics.alias(userId, [previousId], [options], [callback]);
```

Here's the payload of a basic Alias call that will associate this user's existing id (email address) with a new one

(a database ID), with most [common fields](#) removed:

```
{
  "type": "alias",
  "previousId": "jen@email.com",
  "userId": "507f191e81"
}
```

Here's the corresponding JavaScript event that would generate the above payload. If you're using Segment's JavaScript library, Segment automatically passes in the user's `anonymousId` as `previousId` for you:

```
analytics.alias("507f191e81");
```

If you're instrumenting a website, the Anonymous ID is generated in the browser so you must call Alias from the client-side. If you're using a server-side session ID as the Anonymous ID, then you must call Alias from the server-side.



Based on the library you use, the syntax in the examples might be different. You can find library-specific documentation on the [Sources Overview](#) page.

## Examples

Here's a complete example of an Alias call:

```
{
  "anonymousId": "507f191e810c19729de860ea",
  "channel": "browser",
  "context": {
    "ip": "8.8.8.8",
    "userAgent": "Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_9_5) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/40.0.214.115 Safari/537.36"
  },
  "integrations": {
    "All": true,
    "Mixpanel": false,
    "Salesforce": false
  },
  "messageId": "022bb90c-bbac-11e4-8dfc-aa07a5b093db",
  "previousId": "39239-239239-239239-23923",
  "receivedAt": "2015-02-23T22:28:55.387Z",
  "sentAt": "2015-02-23T22:28:55.111Z",
  "timestamp": "2015-02-23T22:28:55.111Z",
  "type": "alias",
  "userId": "507f191e81",
  "version": "1.1"
}
```

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