



Getting Started with Google Gemini AI API

Get an API Key for PaLM Shell in bash

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Introduction

I am writing this step-by-step guide as a courtesy and to help a reader of the Linux Magazine article “Having a Large Language Model in the Palm of Your Hand” published in June 2024.

The goal is to help the reader setup a Google PaLM API (now Google Gemini AI) API key, that is used in the bash shell script that implements the PaLM shell. Good-luck, and have fun!

— William Gilreath, June 2024.



Step-by-Step Process

Follow these steps to get an API key and get started:

1. Go to the Google Gemini AI for Developers | Get an API key here: <https://ai.google.dev/tutorials/setup>
2. Logon to your Google account, or your GMail.
3. Under "Gemini API" click on the "Get an API Key" button from Google AI Studio.

Note: It could be a few days before Google will send you via email your API key.

4. Follow the Google instructions after receiving your API key.

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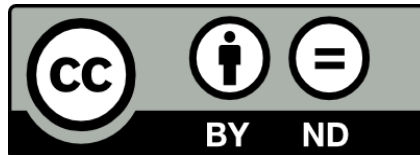
5. When you receive your API key, copy to your system's clipboard.
6. Download the PaLM shell bash script from Github as "PaLMShell.bash" in the repository <https://github.com/wgilreath/palmshell>.
7. In the bash script, insert or paste your API Key received in your email from Google in for the existing pseudo-value using your favourite text editor.
8. Save the bash script, but keep it secure—do NOT share the API key as it is yours alone.
9. Open a console or terminal. Run the bash script, and give a simple prompt like "Tell me a joke." or "What is Reaganomics?" et cetera.
10. Try different prompts to see the result.
11. Congratulations! 🎉 You got the PaLM shell bash script working, have a Google Gemini AI API key, and now can have fun, tinker, and explore prompt engineering.
12. Read the article: "Having a Large Language Model in the Palm of Your Hand," in Linux Magazine, June 2024.

Please let me know suggestions, comments at my email address. Who knows? I might even reply to your message. 😊 Happy prompt engineering!

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