# 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 May 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, May 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.

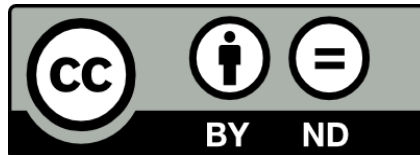4.     Follow the Google instructions after receiving your API key.

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](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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