





XMTP Agent SDK

Build event-driven messaging agents on XMTP

[@xmtp/agent-sdk](#)

What is XMTP Agent SDK?

Build **conversational agents** that:

-  Respond to messages automatically
-  Handle events (DMs, groups, reactions, etc.)
-  Use middleware for extensibility
-  Persist conversations in local database

Think **Express.js for messaging** 

Installation

Choose your package manager:

```
npm install @xmtp/agent-sdk
```

```
# or
```

```
pnpm add @xmtp/agent-sdk
```

```
# or
```

```
yarn add @xmtp/agent-sdk
```



Step 1: Setup Environment Variables

Environment Variables

Create a `.env` file in your project root:

```
# Required: Your wallet private key (hex format)
XMTP_WALLET_KEY=0x1234567890abcdef...

# Optional: Network environment
XMTP_ENV=dev # or 'production'

# Optional: Database persistence
XMTP_DB_DIRECTORY=./data

# Optional: Encrypt your database
XMTP_DB_ENCRYPTION_KEY=0xabcd...1234
```

💡 **Tip:** Generate test keys at xmtp.github.io/agent-sdk-starter

XMTP Key Generator

XMTP Key Generator

Click any key to copy it. Use for development only.

XMTP_WALLET_KEY

```
0x23015c9b2f579493eb6a6b7d2c0d73ade4aae321cd77609dc9b20cabe3ca6a3e
```

XMTP_DB_ENCRYPTION_KEY

```
0x3b526f93a2e3f1a670c1c2b629a411346ee7a3f0522bea5f31adaf3d38a88af4
```

Generate New Keys

How it works

Keys are generated securely in your browser using Web Crypto API. Nothing is sent to any server. Add them to your `.env` file for local development and testing only.

Environment Variables Explained

Variable	Purpose
<code>XMTP_WALLET_KEY</code>	Private key for your agent's wallet identity
<code>XMTP_ENV</code>	Network (<code>dev</code> or <code>production</code>)
<code>XMTP_DB_DIRECTORY</code>	Where to store conversation data
<code>XMTP_DB_ENCRYPTION_KEY</code>	Secure your local database

⚠ **Important:** Keep `XMTP_WALLET_KEY` and `XMTP_DB_ENCRYPTION_KEY` secret!

Step 2: Create Your Agent

Create Agent from Environment

Load your `.env` file and create the agent:

```
import { Agent } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk";
import { loadEnvFile } from "node:process";

// Load environment variables
loadEnvFile(".env");

// Create agent using environment variables
const agent = await Agent.createFromEnv();
```

That's it! Your agent is ready 🎉

Alternative: Manual Setup

If you prefer not to use environment variables:

```
import { Agent } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk";
import { createUser, createSigner } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk/user";

const user = createUser();
const signer = createSigner(user);

const agent = await Agent.create(signer, {
  env: "dev",
  dbPath: null, // in-memory (or provide path)
});
```

Step 3: Responding to Messages

Listen to Text Messages

```
agent.on("text", async (ctx) => {  
  console.log(`Received: ${ctx.message.content}`);  
  
  // Send a reply  
  await ctx.sendText("Hello! 🙌");  
});
```

Simple event-driven pattern you already know!

Available Message Events

```
agent.on("text", async (ctx) => {  
  /* text messages */  
});  
agent.on("reaction", async (ctx) => {  
  /* emoji reactions */  
});  
agent.on("reply", async (ctx) => {  
  /* message replies */  
});  
agent.on("attachment", async (ctx) => {  
  /* file attachments */  
});  
agent.on("markdown", async (ctx) => {  
  /* markdown content */  
});  
agent.on("read-receipt", async (ctx) => {  
  /* read receipts */  
});  
agent.on("group-update", async (ctx) => {  
  /* group changes */  
});
```

Rich Context Helper Methods

Every event handler receives a `ctx` with helpful methods:

```
agent.on("text", async (ctx) => {  
  // Simple text reply  
  await ctx.sendText("Hi there!");  
  
  // Reply to the message  
  await ctx.sendTextReply("Replying to you!");  
  
  // Send markdown  
  await ctx.sendMarkdown("**Bold** and *italic*");  
  
  // React to message  
  await ctx.sendReaction("👍");  
});
```

Example: Echo Bot

```
agent.on("text", async (ctx) => {  
  const message = ctx.message.content;  
  
  // Echo back the message  
  await ctx.sendText(`You said: ${message}`);  
});  
  
agent.on("start", () => {  
  console.log("Echo bot is online! 🎤");  
});  
  
await agent.start();
```

Step 4: Creating Conversations

Start a Direct Message (DM)

```
// Option 1: Use raw Ethereum address
const dm1 = await agent.createDmWithAddress(
  "0x1234567890123456789012345678901234567890",
);

// Option 2: Resolve ENS/web3 names with convenience helper
import { createNameResolver } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk/user";
const resolver = createNameResolver("your-web3bio-api-key");

const address = await resolver("vitalik.eth");
const dm2 = await agent.createDmWithAddress(address);

// Send a message
await dm2.send("Hello! This is a DM.");
```

Perfect for reaching out to users!

Create a Group Conversation

```
// Create a group with multiple addresses
const group = await agent.createGroupWithAddresses([
  "0x1111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111111",
  "0x2222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222222",
  "0x3333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333333",
]);

// Send to the group
await group.send("Welcome to the group! 🎉");

// Add more members
await group.addMembers(["0x4444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444444"]);
```

Listen for New Conversations

```
// Listen for all new conversations
agent.on("conversation", async (ctx) => {
  console.log(`New conversation: ${ctx.conversation.id}`);
});






// Listen specifically for DMs
agent.on("dm", async (ctx) => {
  await ctx.sendText("Thanks for the DM! 📧");
});

// Listen specifically for groups
agent.on("group", async (ctx) => {
  await ctx.sendMarkdown("**Hello, group!** 🙌");
});
```

Step 5: Adding Middleware

What is Middleware?

Middleware lets you:

-  Filter messages
-  Add logging/analytics
-  Implement rate limiting
-  Route commands
-  Transform messages

Just like Express.js middleware!

Simple Middleware Example

```
import type { AgentMiddleware } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk";

const logger: AgentMiddleware = async (ctx, next) => {
  console.log(`✉ Message from: ${ctx.message.senderInboxId}`);
  console.log(`📄 Content: ${ctx.message.content}`);

  // Continue to next middleware
  await next();
};

agent.use(logger);
```

Filter Messages with Middleware

```
import { filter } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk";
import type { AgentMiddleware } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk";

const onlyText: AgentMiddleware = async (ctx, next) => {
  // Only process text messages
  if (filter.isText(ctx.message)) {
    await next();
  }
  // Otherwise, stop the chain (return)
};

agent.use(onlyText);
```

Built-in CommandRouter Middleware

```
import { CommandRouter } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk/middleware";

const router = new CommandRouter();

router.command("/hello", async (ctx) => {
  await ctx.sendText("Hi there! 🙌");
});

router.command("/help", async (ctx) => {
  await ctx.sendText("Available commands: /hello, /help, /status");
});

router.default(async (ctx) => {
  await ctx.sendText(`Unknown command: ${ctx.message.content}`);
});

agent.use(router.middleware());
```


Multiple Middleware Chain






```
const loggerMW: AgentMiddleware = async (ctx, next) => {
  console.log("✉ Message received");
  await next();
};

const filterSelfMW: AgentMiddleware = async (ctx, next) => {
  if (!filter.fromSelf(ctx.message, ctx.client)) {
    await next();
  }
};

const rateLimitMW: AgentMiddleware = async (ctx, next) => {
  // Your rate limiting logic
  await next();
};

// Add all middleware
agent.use(loggerMW, filterSelfMW, rateLimitMW);
```

Best Practices

1.  **Keep secrets safe:** Use `.env` for keys, never commit them
2.  **Use database:** Set `XMTP_DB_DIRECTORY` for persistence
3.  **Filter wisely:** Avoid infinite loops, filter self-messages
4.  **Compose middleware:** Keep middleware focused and reusable
5.  **Handle errors:** Add error middleware for graceful failures

Resources

 **NPM Package:** npm.im/@xmtp/agent-sdk

 **GitHub Sources:** github.com/xmtp/xmtp-js

 **Documentation:** docs.xmtp.org/agents

 **Starter Kit:** github.com/xmtp/agent-sdk-starter

 **Examples:** github.com/xmtp/xmtp-agent-examples