







XMTP Agent SDK

Build event-driven messaging agents on XMTP

`npm.im/@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
```

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)

```
// Create a DM with an Ethereum address
const dm = await agent.createDmWithAddress(
  "0x1234567890123456789012345678901234567890",
);

// Send a message
await dm.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);
```


Advanced: Error Handling

Error Handling Middleware

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

const errorHandler: AgentErrorMiddleware = async (error, ctx, next) => {
  console.error("✖ Error occurred:", error);

  if (error instanceof Error) {
    // Transform and forward
    await next(`Validation failed: ${error.message}`);
  } else {
    // Handle or forward
    await next(error);
  }
};

agent.errors.use(errorHandler);
```

Listen for Unhandled Errors

```
agent.on("unhandledError", (error) => {  
  console.error("🚨 Unhandled error:", error);  
  
  // Log to monitoring service  
  // Send alert  
  // etc.  
});
```



Complete Example

Full Agent Implementation

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

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

// Create agent
const agent = await Agent.createFromEnv();

// Setup command router
const router = new CommandRouter()
  .command("/hello", async (ctx) => {
    await ctx.sendText("Hello! 🙌");
  })
  .command("/help", async (ctx) => {
    await ctx.sendText("Commands: /hello, /help, /ping");
  })
  .command("/ping", async (ctx) => {
    await ctx.sendText("Pong! 🏓");
  });
```

Full Agent Implementation (cont.)

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

// Listen to new groups
agent.on("group", async (ctx) => {
  await ctx.sendMarkdown("**Welcome!** Type `/help` for commands.");
});

// Handle reactions
agent.on("reaction", async (ctx) => {
  console.log(`Got reaction: ${ctx.message.content.content}`);
});

// Lifecycle
agent.on("start", () => {
  console.log("🚀 Agent is online!");
});

// Start the agent
await agent.start();
```








Key Takeaways

What You Learned

- ✓ **Setup:** Configure with environment variables
- ✓ **Create:** Use `Agent.createFromEnv()`
- ✓ **Respond:** Handle events with `.on("text", ...)`
- ✓ **Initiate:** Create DMs and groups
- ✓ **Extend:** Add middleware for routing and filtering

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

 **Documentation:** <https://docs.xmtp.org/agents>

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

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

 **Discord:** Join the XMTP community



Start Building!

Your first agent in 5 lines:

```
import { Agent } from "@xmtp/agent-sdk";  
  
const agent = await Agent.createFromEnv();  
agent.on("text", async (ctx) => await ctx.sendText("Hello! 🙌"));  
await agent.start();
```

Happy Hacking! 🌟