

# What is Firebase?

This lesson will give you a brief introduction to Firebase.

## WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- Background
- Is Firebase Free to use?

## Background #

Firebase is essentially a **Backend-as-a-Service (BaaS)** mobile and web application development platform developed by *Firebase, Inc* in 2011 and then acquired by *Google* in 2014. It provides users with hosted backend services such as a *real-time database*, *cloud storage*, *authentication*, *crash reporting*, *remote configuration*, and *hosting* for static files.

According to statistics, the Firebase platform now has more than *15 products*, which are being used by almost *2 million apps*!



# Firebase

## Is Firebase Free to use? #

Firebase provides us with several products that can be used for free such as:

- Authentication

- A/B Testing
- Analytics
- Cloud Messaging (FCM)
- Crashlytics
- Performance Monitoring
- Remote Config
- Dynamic Links
- Firebase Invites

It also provides developers with a wide variety of paid infrastructure products such as:

- Real-time Database
- Phone Auth
- Firebase Storage
- Hosting
- Test Lab

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In the next lesson, we'll go through the several advantages of using Firebase in a React application.