



TYPES OF APIs

SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol) and RESTful (Representational State Transfer) APIs are two popular architectural styles used for designing web services that allow different software applications to communicate with each other over a network.

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TYPES OF APIs

SOAP API

Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) is a message specification for exchanging information between systems and applications Simple Object Access Protocol

Simple Object Access Protocol

Protocol specification for exchange of structured information in (as well as SMTP, FTP)

Characteristics:

- ➔ Standards based
- ➔ Reliant on XML
- ➔ Highly tolerant of errors
 - ➔ Slower
- ➔ Built-in error handling

SOAP Use

- ➔ Asynchronous processing
 - ➔ Format contracts
 - ➔ Stateful operations

RESTful API

RESTful API is an interface that two computer systems use to exchange information securely over the internet.

RESTful API

It is a software approach designed to scale the capabilities of web-based applications

Characteristics:

- ➔ Low processing overhead
- ➔ Uses Simple URL / URI
- ➔ Not reliant on single Programming Knowledge
 - ➔ Scalable and efficient
 - ➔ Outputs in many formats
 - ➔ Uses HTTP verbs

RESTful API Use

REST API works well:

- ➔ When bandwidth is low
- ➔ When stateless operations are used
- ➔ When caching is needed