

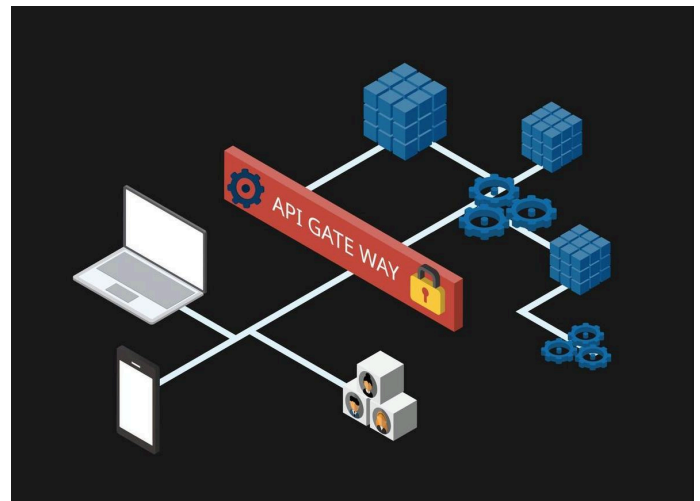
What is an API gateway?

EMPOWERING SECURE, SCALABLE, AND HIGH-PERFORMANCE APIS

An API Gateway acts as the front door for all your backend services and systems. It receives requests from clients (internal or external users/applications), routes them to the appropriate internal services, and returns a response. By providing a single entry point, API gateways simplify how customers and partners access your services while maintaining security and control.

API gateway capabilities

- › **Security & Authentication:** Enforce consistent access policies (e.g. Authorization and Authentication) and protect against threats or misuse (e.g. Rate Limiting).
- › **Traffic Management:** Intelligently route and load-balance traffic across multiple services. Implements caching for enhanced performance.
- › **Monitoring & Analytics:** Track the usage and performance of your API. Gateways often surface issues like high failure rates. Trends in API usage help you make informed product decisions.



Why use an API Gateway

- › **Centralized Security:** Consistent security policies across all of your APIs, reducing the risk of a shadow API causing a security breach.
- › **Streamlined Access:** Offers a unified interface to multiple services, making it easier for partners or customers to integrate with your platform.
- › **Enhanced Performance:** Optimize traffic management and how data is cached and transferred to improve speed and reliability.
- › **Improved Developer Experience:** A centralized system with built-in capabilities allows your engineering team to focus on developing features.

Considerations when choosing an API gateway

- › **Scalability & Performance:** Can it handle your expected traffic and growth? Look at hosting options (e.g. Fully-managed vs On-premise) as part of this evaluation.
- › **Security & Compliance:** Does it meet your industry's requirements and protect sensitive data? Look for SOC 2 Type 2 compliance in most cases.
- › **Ease of Integration:** How well does it integrate with existing tools and services? Look for OpenAPI, GitOps, and custom code support to make integration simple for your engineers.