# API and integrations

> This page concerns phpList self-hosted users only. If you have a registered account at the phpList Hosted service, please contact hosted@phpList.com.

phpList is a stand-alone solution which can also be integrated into other systems, workflows, and applications. This can be as simple as automatically adding a sign-up form for a newsletter list to your Wordpress blog, or as complex as using phpList as one of many components in a larger automated enterprise resource planning system.

# Application Programming Interface (API)

phpList 3.4.0 and later includes a REST API which, when enabled, allows other software systems to interact with it in a variety of ways, such as managing subscribers, lists, and campaigns.

## System requirements

The REST API has different server requirements than phpList 3 — it may not be compatible with your environment even if you are already using phpList 3 successfully. The most significant difference is the requirement of PHP 7. Apache users must also have support for `.htaccess` files and `mod_rewrite` enabled in order to use the API securely.

For the full list of requirements please see the System Requirements of phpList 4.

## Enable the API

- Open the following file with a text editor: `public_html/lists/base/config/config_modules.yml`
- Change `false` to `true` on the following line: `{ view_response_listener: { enabled: false } }`
- Delete this folder entirely: `public_html/lists/base/var/cache`

# Access the API

By default the base URL for API requests is `http://my-website.com/lists/api/v2/`. So, to authenticate a new API session you could use the following URL: `http://my-website.com/lists/api/v2/sessions`. This access URL can be changed by editing your webserver configuration.

# Test the API

To check if the API is enabled and working properly, you can try authenticating a new session from a Linux or Mac terminal using the `curl` command-line utility. Substitute the example phpList installation URL, and phpList admin username and password, in the following command, and copy and paste it into your terminal:

```
curl --request POST --url http://my-website.com/lists/api/v2/sessions --header 'Content-Type: application/json' --data '{"login_name": "admin","password": "phplist"}'
```

The output should be similar to the following, with a different expiry date, key, and id:

```
{"expiry":"2019-03-31T18:16:42+00:00","key":"24244871cf45aa2f1c0dbddf82b9912b","id":6}
```

If instead, you see a message in HTML stating '403 Forbidden', then you should check your webserver's permission configuration.

Non-superuser administrators cannot authenticate via the REST API.

Given valid login data, this will generate a login token that will be valid for 1 hour.

The login token then can be passed as basic auth password for requests that require authentication.

# Examples of API clients/ implementations

To demonstrate how to use the API some example clients are available in different programming languages. See the REST API Client Examples repository for details.

# Example API clients

Demo implementations of the API in various languages can be found in the dedicated repository.

# Enable API logging

The following steps will enable logging of API requests and errors:

- Edit the following file: `public_html/lists/base/vendor/phplist/core/config/config_prod.yml`
- Remove the pound (`#`) from the beginning of every line from line 4 onwards to uncomment them

# Supported API actions

For complete documentation of all supported REST API actions please see the API Blueprint.

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