

Telegram Webhook - Simple Documentation

1. What is a Webhook?

A Webhook is a way for one system (Telegram in this case) to send real-time data to another system (your server) via an HTTP POST request.

Unlike polling, where your system repeatedly asks for updates, a webhook allows Telegram to notify your server immediately when there's an event.

2. Why Use a Webhook with Telegram?

There are two main ways to get data from Telegram:

- a) Polling: Your system asks Telegram for updates regularly.
- b) Webhook: Telegram sends updates directly to your server as they happen.

Using a webhook ensures:

- Real-time communication.
- Efficient handling of requests.
- Immediate responses to users.

3. How Does a Webhook Work?

1. User sends a message to the bot (e.g., /joke).
2. Telegram sends the message to your server via a POST request to a pre-configured webhook URL.
3. Your server processes the data and performs necessary actions.

4. Your server sends a response to the user via the Telegram Bot API.

4. Setting up the Webhook URL

To set up a webhook, you need to provide Telegram with a URL where it will send updates. The command to set up a webhook is:

```
https://api.telegram.org/bot<YOUR_BOT_TOKEN>/setWebhook?url=https://yourdomain.com/webhook
```

5. Example of a Simple Interaction

User: /joke

Bot: "Why don't skeletons fight each other? They don't have the guts!"

6. Benefits of Using Webhook:

- Real-time updates.
- Efficient and quick communication.
- No need for polling.
- Can handle larger amounts of data seamlessly.

Summary: Telegram Webhook is an efficient and secure way to interact with Telegram's Bot API. It allows your bot to respond to users in real-time with minimal effort and is easy to set up.