

Introduction

Welcome to MetaMask’s Developer Documentation. This documentation is for learning to develop applications for MetaMask.

- You can find the latest version of MetaMask on our [official website](#).
- For help using MetaMask, visit our [User Support Site](#).
- For up to the minute news, follow our [Peepeth](#), [Twitter](#) or [Medium](#) pages.
- To learn how to contribute to the MetaMask project itself, visit our [Internal Docs](#).

Why Metamask

MetaMask was created out of the needs of creating more secure and usable Ethereum-based web sites. In particular, it handles account management and connecting the user to the blockchain.

- [Read the full docs of our injected provider](#)
- [Read the full docs of the JSON RPC API](#)
- [Read about other supported APIs](#)

Account Management

MetaMask allows users to manage accounts and their keys in a variety of ways, including hardware wallets, while isolating them from the site context. This is a great security improvement over storing the user keys on a single central server, or even in local storage, which can allow for [mass account thefts](#).

This security feature also comes with developer convenience: simply interact with the globally available `ethereum` API that web3-compatible browsers (like MetaMask users), and whenever

New content is available.

[Refresh](#)

☰ MetaMask Docs

users rather than performing mass hacks, although [DNS hacks can still be used for phishing en masse](#).

Blockchain Connection

MetaMask comes pre-loaded with nice and fast connections to the Ethereum blockchain and several test networks via our friends at [Infura](#). This allows users to get started without synchronizing a full node, while still providing the option to upgrade their security the blockchain provider of their choice over time.

Today, MetaMask is compatible with any blockchain that exposes an [Ethereum Compatible JSON RPC API](#), including custom and private blockchains. For development, we recommend running a test blockchain like [Ganache](#).

We're aware that there are constantly more and more private blockchains that people are interested in connecting MetaMask to, and [we are continuously building towards easier and easier integration with these many options](#).

Blockchain Applications

MetaMask makes it easy to write user interfaces to blockchain-based smart contract systems. You can accept payments without knowing how to write smart contracts, but you'll be able to do much more interesting things if you do.

New Dapp Developers

- [Learning Solidity](#) by karl Floersch
- [CryptoZombies](#)

New content is available.

Refresh

☰ MetaMask Docs

[Getting Started →](#)

New content is available.

Refresh