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# **apiron Documentation**

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**Ithaka Harbors, Inc.**

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apiron (“API” + “iron”) is a Python wrapper for interacting with RESTful APIs

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**Tip:** Read the [upgrade guide](#) to make sure you’re prepared for the latest version of apiron.

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Welcome to the documentation for apiron! You can use this documentation to orient yourself to the codebase, search broadly for existing functionality, or look up the expectations for specific classes and methods.

As with all documentation, this is a living, breathing beast. If you notice something undocumented or misdocumented, feel free to change it in a pull request!



## GETTING STARTED

The goal of `apiron` is to get you up and running quickly, consuming a service with little initial configuration while allowing for granular customization. The declarative nature of this setup makes the shape of services and their endpoints more obvious than placing those details in one-off calls.

The minimum possible configuration requires a bit of information about the service.

### 1.1 Defining a service

A service definition requires a domain and one or more endpoints with which to interact:

```
from apiron import JsonEndpoint, Service

class GitHub(Service):
    domain = 'https://api.github.com'
    user = JsonEndpoint(path='/users/{username}')
    repo = JsonEndpoint(path='/repos/{org}/{repo}')
```

### 1.2 Interacting with a service

Once your service definition is in place, you can interact with its endpoints in an SDK-like manner:

```
response = GitHub.user(username='defunkt')
# {"name": "Chris Wanstrath", ...}

response = GitHub.repo(org='github', repo='hub')
# {"description": "hub helps you win at git.", ...}
```

### 1.3 Next steps

Now that you're a seasoned pro, explore the *advanced usage*!





## ADVANCED USAGE

[httpbin.org](http://httpbin.org) is a great testing tool for various situations you may run into when interacting with RESTful services. Let's define a *Service* that points at [httpbin.org](http://httpbin.org) and hook up a few interesting endpoints.

### 2.1 Service and endpoints

```
# test_service.py
from apiron import Endpoint, JsonEndpoint, Service, StreamingEndpoint

class HttpBin(Service):
    domain = 'https://httpbin.org'

    getter = JsonEndpoint(path='/get')
    poster = JsonEndpoint(path='/post', default_method='POST')
    status = Endpoint(path='/status/{status_code}/')
    anything = JsonEndpoint(path='/anything/{anything}')
    slow = JsonEndpoint(path='/delay/5')
    streamer = StreamingEndpoint(path='/stream/{num_lines}')
```

### 2.2 Using all the features

```
import requests

from apiron import Timeout

from test_service import HttpBin

# A normal old GET call
HttpBin.getter(params={'foo': 'bar'})

# A normal old POST call
HttpBin.poster(data={'foo': 'bar'})

# A GET call with parameters formatted into the path
HttpBin.anything(anything=42)

# A GET call with a 500 response, raises RetryError since we successfully tried but got
```

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```

↪ a bad response
try:
    HttpBin.status(status_code=500)
except requests.exceptions.RetryError:
    pass

# A GET call to a slow endpoint, raises ConnectionError since our connection failed
try:
    HttpBin.slow()
except requests.exceptions.ConnectionError:
    pass

# A GET call to a slow endpoint with a longer timeout
HttpBin.slow(
    timeout_spec=Timeout(connection_timeout=1, read_timeout=6)
)

# A streaming response
response = HttpBin.streamer(num_lines=20)
for chunk in response:
    print(chunk)

```

## 2.3 Service discovery

You may want to interact with a service whose name is known but whose hosts are resolved via another application. Here is an example where the resolver application always resolves to `https://www.google.com` for the host.

```

from apiron import DiscoverableService

class Eureka:
    @staticmethod
    def resolve(service_name):
        hosts = ... # get host list from Eureka

class AuthenticationService(DiscoverableService):
    service_name = 'authentication-service'
    host_resolver_class = Eureka

    auth = Endpoint(path='/auth')

response = AuthenticationService.auth(data={'user': 'Gandalf', 'password': 'Mellon'})

```

An application may wish to use a load balancer application or a more complex service discovery mechanism (like Netflix's [Eureka](#)) to resolve the hostnames of a given service.

## 2.4 Workflow consistency

It's common to have an existing `requests.Session` object you'd like to use to make additional requests. This is enabled in `apiron` with the `session` argument to an endpoint call. The passed in session object will be used to send the request. This is useful for workflows where cookies or other information need to persist across multiple calls.

It's often more useful in logs to know which module initiated the code doing the logging. `apiron` allows for an existing logger object to be passed to an endpoint call using the `logger` argument so that logs will indicate the caller module rather than `apiron.client`.



## UPGRADE GUIDE

This document will guide you through upgrading from *apiron 2.X* versions to *apiron 3.X*.

### 3.1 Replacing ServiceCaller usage

As of version 2.3.0, instantiating a service class and passing it to `ServiceCaller.call` is no longer necessary. In 3.X, `ServiceCaller` has been removed altogether (though its behaviors are still in the `apiron.client` module). Replace calls to `ServiceCaller.call` with the more semantic `SomeService.some_endpoint`:

```
# Before
from apiron.client import ServiceCaller
from apiron.service.base import Service
from apiron.endpoint import JsonEndpoint

class GitHub(Service):
    domain = 'https://api.github.com'
    user = JsonEndpoint(path='/users/{username}')
    repo = JsonEndpoint(path='/repos/{org}/{repo}')

GITHUB = GitHub()

defunkt = ServiceCaller.call(GITHUB, GITHUB.user, path_kwargs={'username': 'defunkt'})

# After
from apiron.service.base import Service
from apiron.endpoint import JsonEndpoint

class GitHub(Service):
    domain = 'https://api.github.com'
    user = JsonEndpoint(path='/users/{username}')
    repo = JsonEndpoint(path='/repos/{org}/{repo}')

defunkt = GitHub.user(path_kwargs={'username': 'defunkt'})
```

## 3.2 Simplifying imports

As of version 2.4.0, most classes are available as top-level imports from the `apiron` package:

```
# Before
from apiron.service.base import Service
from apiron.endpoint import JsonEndpoint

# After
from apiron import Service, JsonEndpoint
```

## 3.3 Simplifying endpoint path placeholders

As of version 2.5.0, `path_kwargs` is no longer necessary; just pass path fillers as additional keyword arguments:

```
# Before
defunkt = GitHub.user(path_kwargs={'username', 'defunkt'})

# After
defunkt = GitHub.user(username='defunkt')
```

## 3.4 Summary

Prepare for apiron 3.X by installing apiron 2.5+ and doing the following:

- Replace `ServiceCaller.call` with the more direct `SomeService.some_endpoint`
- Import classes from `apiron` directly
- Replace `path_kwargs` with direct keyword arguments

## API REFERENCE

### 4.1 Services

**class** `apiron.service.base.Service`

Bases: `ServiceBase`

A base class for low-level services.

A service has a domain off of which one or more endpoints stem.

**classmethod** `get_hosts()` → `List[str]`

The fully-qualified hostnames that correspond to this service. These are often determined by asking a load balancer or service discovery mechanism.

**Returns**

The hostname strings corresponding to this service

**Return type**

`list`

**class** `apiron.service.discoverable.DiscoverableService`

Bases: `ServiceBase`

A Service whose hosts are determined via a host resolver. A host resolver is any class with a `resolve()` method that takes a service name as its sole argument and returns a list of host names that correspond to that service.

**classmethod** `get_hosts()` → `List[str]`

The fully-qualified hostnames that correspond to this service. These are often determined by asking a load balancer or service discovery mechanism.

**Returns**

The hostname strings corresponding to this service

**Return type**

`list`

## 4.2 Endpoints

```
class apiron.endpoint.Endpoint(path: str = '/', default_method: str = 'GET', default_params: dict[str, Any] | None = None, required_params: Iterable[str] | None = None, return_raw_response_object: bool = False, timeout_spec: Timeout | None = None, retry_spec: Retry | None = None)
```

Bases: `object`

A basic service endpoint that responds with the default Content-Type for that endpoint

### Parameters

- **path** (`str`) – The URL path for this endpoint, without the protocol or domain
- **default\_method** (`str`) – (Default 'GET') The default method to use when calling this endpoint.
- **default\_params** (`dict`) – The default parameters to use when calling this endpoint. Useful when an endpoint always or most often needs a base set of parameters supplied.
- **required\_params** – An iterable of required parameter names. Calling an endpoint without its required parameters raises an exception.
- **return\_raw\_response\_object** (`bool`) – Whether to return a `requests.Response` object or call `format_response()` on it first. This can be overridden when calling the endpoint. (Default False)
- **timeout\_spec** (`Timeout`) – (optional) An override of the timeout behavior for calls to this endpoint. (default None)
- **retry\_spec** (`urllib3.util.retry.Retry`) – (optional) An override of the retry behavior for calls to this endpoint. (default None)

```
format_response(response: Response) → str | dict[str, Any] | Iterable[bytes]
```

Extracts the appropriate type of response data from a `requests.Response` object

### Parameters

**response** (`requests.Response`) – The original response from `requests`

### Returns

The response's text content

### Return type

`str`

```
get_formatted_path(**kwargs) → str
```

Format this endpoint's path with the supplied keyword arguments

### Returns

The fully-formatted path

### Return type

`str`

```
get_merged_params(supplied_params: dict[str, Any] | None = None) → dict[str, Any]
```

Merge this endpoint's default parameters with the supplied parameters

### Parameters

**supplied\_params** (`dict`) – A dictionary of query parameter, value pairs



**Returns**

A dictionary of this endpoint's default parameters, merged with the supplied parameters. Any default parameters which have a value supplied are overridden.

**Return type**

`dict`

**Raises**

**`apiron.exceptions.UnfulfilledParameterException`** – When a required parameter for this endpoint is not a default param and is not supplied by the caller

**property** `path_placeholders`: `list[str]`

The formattable placeholders from this endpoint's path, in the order they appear.

Example:

```
>>> endpoint = Endpoint(path='/api/{foo}/{bar}')
>>> endpoint.path_placeholders
['foo', 'bar']
```

**property** `required_headers`: `dict[str, Any]`

Generates the headers that must be sent to this endpoint based on its attributes

**Returns**

Header name, header value pairs

**Return type**

`dict`

**class** `apiron.endpoint.JsonEndpoint`(\*args, path: *str* = '/', default\_method: *str* = 'GET', default\_params: *Dict[str, Any]* | *None* = None, required\_params: *Iterable[str]* | *None* = None, preserve\_order: *bool* = False)

Bases: `Endpoint`

An endpoint that returns *application/json*

**Parameters**

- **path** (*str*) – The URL path for this endpoint, without the protocol or domain
- **default\_method** (*str*) – (Default 'GET') The default method to use when calling this endpoint.
- **default\_params** (*dict*) – The default parameters to use when calling this endpoint. Useful when an endpoint always or most often needs a base set of parameters supplied.
- **required\_params** – An iterable of required parameter names. Calling an endpoint without its required parameters raises an exception.
- **return\_raw\_response\_object** (*bool*) – Whether to return a `requests.Response` object or call `format_response()` on it first. This can be overridden when calling the endpoint. (Default False)
- **timeout\_spec** (*Timeout*) – (optional) An override of the timeout behavior for calls to this endpoint. (default None)
- **retry\_spec** (*urllib3.util.retry.Retry*) – (optional) An override of the retry behavior for calls to this endpoint. (default None)

**format\_response**(*response*) → `Dict[str, Any]`

Extracts JSON data from the response

**Parameters**

**response** (*requests.Response*) – The original response from *requests*

**Returns**

The response's JSON content

**Return type**

*dict* if *preserve\_order* is *False*

**Return type**

*collections.OrderedDict* if *preserve\_order* is *True*

**property required\_headers:** *Dict[str, str]*

Generates the headers that must be sent to this endpoint based on its attributes

**Returns**

Header name, header value pairs

**Return type**

*dict*

```
class apiron.endpoint.StreamingEndpoint(path: str = '/', default_method: str = 'GET', default_params:
    dict[str, Any] | None = None, required_params: Iterable[str] |
    None = None, return_raw_response_object: bool = False,
    timeout_spec: Timeout | None = None, retry_spec: Retry | None
    = None)
```

Bases: *Endpoint*

An endpoint that streams data incrementally

**Parameters**

- **path** (*str*) – The URL path for this endpoint, without the protocol or domain
- **default\_method** (*str*) – (Default 'GET') The default method to use when calling this endpoint.
- **default\_params** (*dict*) – The default parameters to use when calling this endpoint. Useful when an endpoint always or most often needs a base set of parameters supplied.
- **required\_params** – An iterable of required parameter names. Calling an endpoint without its required parameters raises an exception.
- **return\_raw\_response\_object** (*bool*) – Whether to return a *requests.Response* object or call *format\_response()* on it first. This can be overridden when calling the endpoint. (Default *False*)
- **timeout\_spec** (*Timeout*) – (optional) An override of the timeout behavior for calls to this endpoint. (default *None*)
- **retry\_spec** (*urllib3.util.retry.Retry*) – (optional) An override of the retry behavior for calls to this endpoint. (default *None*)

**format\_response**(*response*) → *Iterable[bytes]*

Stream response in chunks

**Parameters**

**response** (*requests.Response*) – The original response from *requests*

**Returns**

The response's content

**Return type**  
generator

**class** apiron.endpoint.StubEndpoint(*stub\_response: Any | None = None, \*\*kwargs*)

Bases: [Endpoint](#)

A stub endpoint designed to return a pre-baked response

The intent is to allow for a service to be implemented before the endpoint is complete.

#### Parameters

- **stub\_response** – A pre-baked response or response-determining function. Pre-baked response example: 'stub response' or {'stub': 'response'} A response-determining function may operate on any arguments provided to the client's call method. Example of a response-determining function:

```
def stub_response(**kwargs):
    if kwargs.get('params') and kwargs['params'].get('param_key') ==
    ↪ 'param_value':
        return {'stub response': 'for param_key=param_value'}
    else:
        return {'default': 'response'}
```

- **\*\*kwargs** – Arbitrary parameters that can match the intended real endpoint. These don't do anything for the stub but streamline the interface.

## 4.3 Service client

**class** apiron.client.Timeout(*connection\_timeout, read\_timeout*)

Bases: [tuple](#)

Create new instance of Timeout(connection\_timeout, read\_timeout)

**connection\_timeout**

Alias for field number 0

**read\_timeout**

Alias for field number 1

**apiron.client.call**(*service: apiron.Service, endpoint: apiron.Endpoint, method: str | None = None, session: requests.Session | None = None, params: dict[str, Any] | None = None, data: dict[str, Any] | None = None, files: dict[str, str] | None = None, json: dict[str, Any] | None = None, headers: dict[str, Any] | None = None, cookies: dict[str, Any] | None = None, auth: Any | None = None, encoding: str | None = None, retry\_spec: retry.Retry | None = None, timeout\_spec: Timeout | None = None, logger: logging.Logger | None = None, allow\_redirects: bool = True, return\_raw\_response\_object: bool | None = None, \*\*kwargs*)

#### Parameters

- **service** ([Service](#)) – The service that hosts the endpoint being called
- **endpoint** ([Endpoint](#)) – The endpoint being called
- **method** ([str](#)) – The HTTP method to use for the call
- **session** ([requests.Session](#)) – (optional) An existing session, useful for making many calls in a single session (default None)

- **params** (*dict*) – (optional) GET parameters to send to the endpoint (default None)
- **data** (*dict*) – (optional) POST data to send to the endpoint. A *dict* will be form-encoded, while a *str* will be sent raw (default None)
- **files** (*dict*) – (optional) Dictionary of 'filename': file-like-objects for multi-part encoding upload. (default None)
- **json** (*dict*) – (optional) A JSON-serializable dictionary that will be sent as the POST body (default None)
- **headers** (*dict*) – HTTP Headers to send to the endpoint (default None)
- **cookies** (*dict*) – Cookies to send to the endpoint (default None)
- **auth** – An object suitable for the `requests.Request` object's `auth` argument
- **encoding** (*str*) – The codec to use when decoding the response. Default behavior is to have `requests` guess the codec. (default None)
- **retry\_spec** (`urllib3.util.retry.Retry`) – (optional) An override of the retry behavior for this call. (default None)
- **timeout\_spec** (`Timeout`) – (optional) An override of the timeout behavior for this call. (default None)
- **logger** (`logging.Logger`) – (optional) An existing logger for logging from the proper caller for better correlation
- **allow\_redirects** (*bool*) – (optional) Enable/disable GET/OPTIONS/POST/PUT/PATCH/DELETE/HEAD redirection (default True)
- **return\_raw\_response\_object** (*bool*) – Whether to return a `requests.Response` object or call `format_response()` on it first. (Default False)
- **\*\*kwargs** – Arguments to be formatted into the `endpoint` argument's `path` attribute

**Returns**

The result of `endpoint's format_response()`

**Return type**

The type returned by `endpoint's format_response()`

**Raises**

- **requests.RetryError** – if retry threshold exceeded due to bad HTTP codes (default 500 range)
- **requests.ConnectionError** – if retry threshold exceeded due to connection or request timeouts

## WRITING DOCUMENTATION

Learn about *developing these docs* themselves.



You can always find these features in the navigation menu.

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`

## 6.1 Developing the apiron documentation

These docs are built using `sphinx`.

### 6.1.1 Developing

If you have `tox` installed, you may build these docs by running `tox -e docs`. Otherwise, you can follow the instructions below to manually install dependencies and build the docs.

#### Automated

You can use the docs environment for `tox` to build the documentation. With `tox` installed, run `tox -e docs` to build the HTML documentation. After the documentation is built, you can serve the build directory, which will be located at `.tox/docs/tmp/docs`.

#### Manual

You can also manage the documentation manually if you want more control.

#### Installation

Use your favorite method to create a virtual environment and install the package with its extras for documentation:

```
$ cd /path/to/apiron/  
$ pyenv virtualenv 3.8.0 apiron # pick your favorite virtual environment tool  
$ pyenv local apiron  
(apiron) $ pip install -e .[docs]
```

## Building

You can build or rebuild the static documentation using `make`:

```
$ cd /path/to/apiron/docs/
(apiron) $ make html
Running Sphinx v1.7.4
...
build succeeded.

The HTML pages are in _build/html.
```

If you'd instead like to have the docs rebuilt as you're changing them, you can watch for changes:

```
$ cd /path/to/apiron/docs/
(apiron) $ make watch
[...] Serving on http://127.0.0.1:8000
[...] Start watching changes
[...] Start detecting changes
```



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