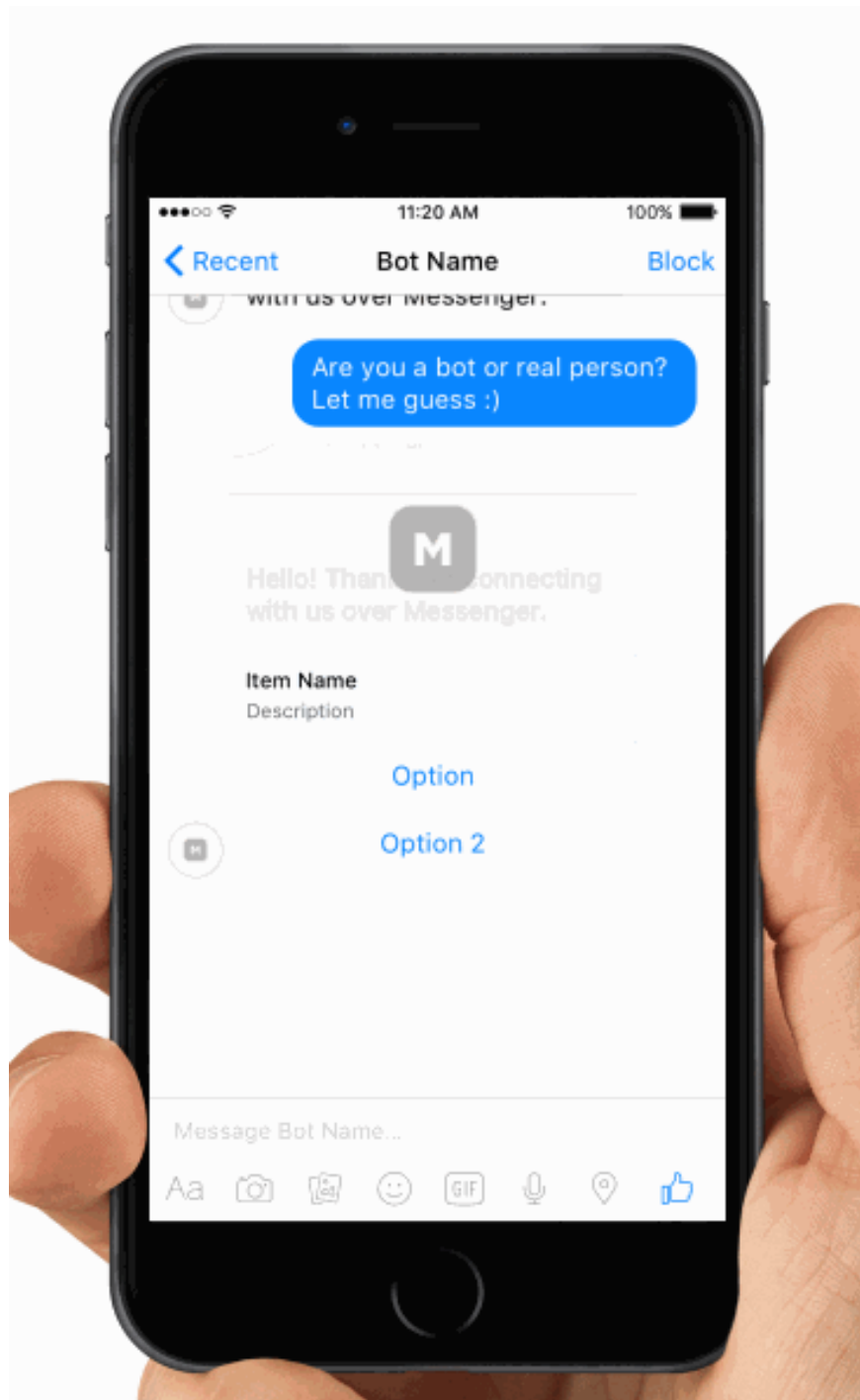


How to build a bot that automatically chat on Facebook Messenger

Recently, Facebook has opened the Messenger Platform platform to activate User Communication Bot via Facebook Apps and Facebook Pages application. In the following article, Network Administrator will guide you how to build a bot to automatically chat on Facebook Messenger.

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Here are the steps to create a chat bot on Facebook Messenger.

1. Set up

Messenger bot uses web server to handle messages that it receives or finds messages to send.

1.1. Build server

1. Download and install Heroku Toolbet here to start, stop and track incidents.

If you don't have an account, you can sign up for free at <https://www.heroku.com>.

2. Visit <https://nodejs.org> to install Node to create server environment.

Then proceed to open Terminal or Command Line Prompt to make sure you have installed the latest npm version by installing nmp again:

sudo npm install npm -g

3. Create a new directory and create a new project Node. Press Enter to accept the default value:

npm init

4. Install Node Dependencies service pack. Express for servers requiring message sending and body-parser to handle messages:

npm install express request body-parser --save

5. Create the index.js file in the directory and copy the code below to confirm the bot:

```
var express = require('express') var bodyParser = require('body-parser') var req
```

6. Create a file and name the file Procfile, then copy the code below to let Heroku know which file to run:
web: node index.js

Confirm all code with Git then create a new Heroku code and "push" the code to the cloud:

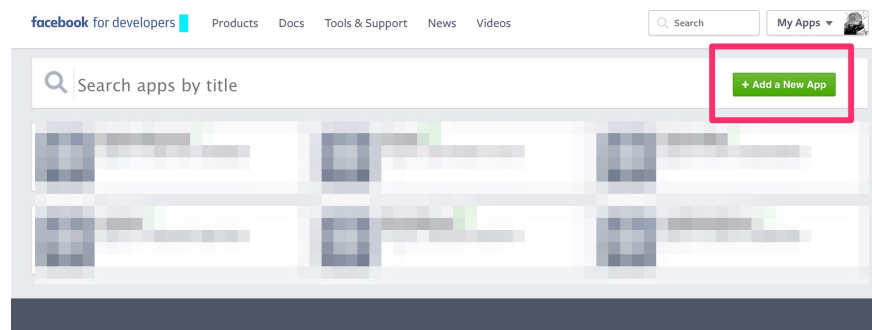
```
web: node index.js
```

7. Confirm all code with Git then create a new Heroku code and "push" the code to the cloud:

```
git init git add . git commit --message 'hello world' heroku create git push heroku
```

1.2. Set up the Facebook App application

1. Visit <https://developers.facebook.com/apps/> to create or configure Facebook App or Page.



2. On the application, switch to the Messenger tab and then click **Setup Webhook** . Here enter the URL of Heroku server and the token.

New Page Subscription

Callback URL
https://guarded-dusk-27146.herokuapp.com/webhook/

Verify Token
my_voice_is_my_password_verify_me

Subscription Fields

message_deliveries messages messaging_optins

messaging_postbacks

Cancel Verify and Save

3. Get Page Access Token and save this code.

facebook for developers Products Docs Tools & Support News Videos Search My Apps

BayAreaSecrets

Dashboard Settings App Review App Details Roles Open Graph Alerts Localize Canvas Payments Audience Network Test Apps Account Kit Webhooks Messenger Analytics

Token Generation

Page token is required to start using the APIs. This page token will have all messenger permissions even if your app is not approved to use them yet, though in this case you will be able to message only app admins. You can also generate page tokens for the pages you don't own using Facebook Login.

Page: Select a Page Page Access Token: You must select a Page to generate an access token.

Webhooks Edit events

To receive messages and other events sent by Messenger users, the app should enable webhooks integration.

Selected events: message_deliveries, messages, messaging_optins, messaging_postbacks Complete

App Review for Messenger View Review Status

To use Messenger platform, your app needs to be approved for Send/Receive API (pages_messaging). The Send/Receive API should only be used to send organic content and should not be used to send marketing or other promotional communications. To match your existing contacts to Messenger accounts using their phone numbers, you'll need Customer Matching (pages_messaging_phone_number).

pages_messaging Enables your app to send and receive messages using a Facebook Page. This permission cannot be used to send promotional or advertising content. Not Approved

pages_messaging_phone_number Enables your app to match phone numbers you already have to Messenger accounts. In order to use this permission, your app must be already approved for the Send/Receive API and based in the US. Not Approved

One-Time \$99 Customer Matching Fee

Pay \$99 for each Facebook Page that uses Customer Matching. Pages will only be approved if they are based in the United States (ie: they have a US address or at least one admin with a US address).

I confirm that this Page is based in the US. Select a Page Make Payment

4. Go back to Terminal and enter the following command to activate the Facebook app to send the message. Note, use the token you used earlier.

1.

```
curl -X POST "https://graph.facebook.com/v2.6/me/subscribed_apps?access_token"
```

1.3. Set up Bot

1. Add API endpoint to index.js to perform message processing. Note, including the token you received earlier:

```
app.post('/webhook/', function (req, res) { messaging_events = req.body.entry[0]
```

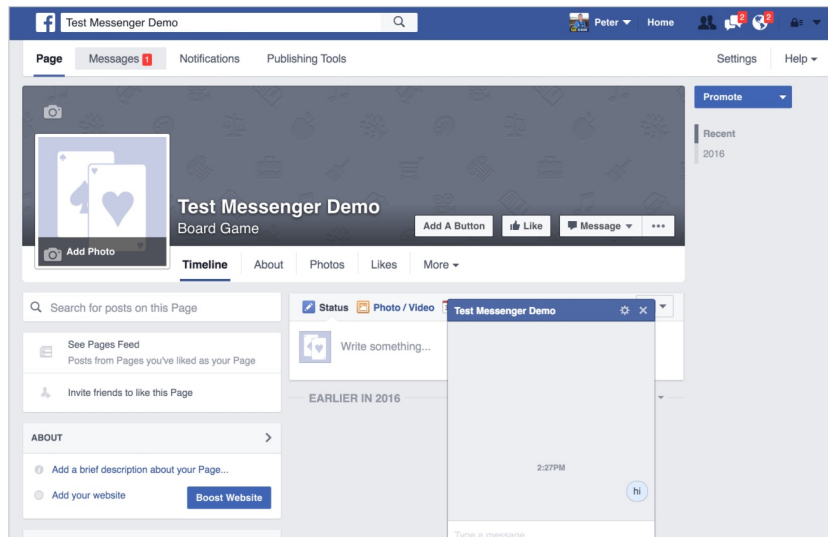
2. Add a function to respond to the message:

```
function sendTextMessage(sender, text) { messageData = { text:text } request({ u
```

3. Confirm the code again and push to Heroku:

```
git add . git commit -m 'updated the bot to speak' git push heroku master
```

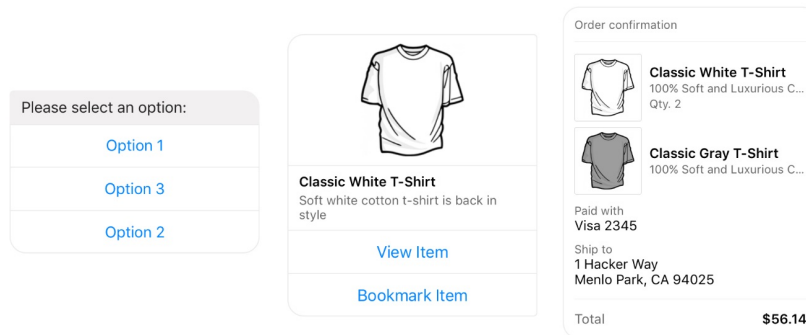
4. Access Facebook and click Message to start chatting.



2. Customize bot messages "say"

2.1. Send a Message message structure

Facebook Messenger can send a Message message structure in the form of a card or button.



1. Copy the code below some index.js to send a test message in the form of 2 cards:

```
function sendGenericMessage(sender) {
  messageData = {
    "attachment": {
      "type": "t
```

2. Update Webhook API to search for special messages to activate on the card:

```
app.post('/webhook/', function (req, res) {
  messaging_events = req.body.entry[0]
```

2.2. Respond to user messages

What happens when a user clicks on a button or card on Message? In this case, update the Webhook API again to send the postback function:

```
```` app.post('/webhook/', function (req, res) {
 messaging_events = req.body.ent
```

Add Git, confirm and push up Heroku again.

Now you can chat with bot and enter "Generic" to see the bot.

### Refer to some of the following articles:

- 1. How to know if someone has read your message on Facebook Message?
- 1. Steps to create Facebook ads
- 1. Turn off Facebook, take time to visit these 37 Web sites to add new knowledge every day
- 1. Trick to turn off notifications from Facebook on Chrome browser

**Good luck!**

You finished reading the article "**How to build a bot that automatically chat on Facebook Messenger**" edited by the [TipsMake](#) team. We hope this article has provided you with many useful tech tips and tricks. You can search for similar articles on tips and guides. Thank you for reading and for following us regularly.



