

Webhook Trigger

What is a Webhook trigger?

A webhook trigger is a type of trigger that allows you to start a flow when an application sends data updates via a URL endpoint. This is useful for automating tasks that need to be performed in response to events in other applications. For example, you could use a webhook trigger to start a flow when a new order is placed in your ecommerce system. The flow could then automatically update your inventory system and send a notification to the customer.

Terminologies

Webhook

The mechanism of calling a URL when an event occurs. The data is sent over a specified URL on the web.

Webhook URL

The URL via which data is sent from one application to another when an event occurs.

Payload

The data received from the application via the webhook URL.

HTTP

Hyper Text Transfer Protocol. A data transmission standard that defines how servers and browsers send and interpret data.

Headers

Additional information transferred along with the HTTP request for purposes such as authorization and identification.

How does Webhook trigger work?

When you set up this trigger, a unique URL is generated by Zoho RPA. Use this to configure the settings in the third-party application or code to send data to Zoho RPA when a particular data update happens.

This trigger supports three types of data:

JSON

JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) is a lightweight data interchange format. It contains data as key-value pairs. Example: {"name" : "Angela", "location" : "Newyork", "appointment_status" : "confirmed"}, Here "name" : "Angela" is the first key-value pair in which 'name' is the key and Angela is the value.

Form data

A set of key-value pairs representing the form field names and their values, which can be used as a part of a HTTP request.

Example: name=Angela&location=Newyork&appointment_status=confirmed

Plain text

If you select the data as plain text, the incoming data will be rendered as it is sent via the URL. Example: Zylker

Note: Select Plain text for XML. You can further process it using a custom function.

Zoho RPA interprets the incoming data depending on the type you select. It's important that you know how your data is going to be transferred. For example, if you chose **Form data** and the incoming data is name=Angela&location=Newywork&appointment_status=confirmed, Zoho RPA will interpret the data as: **name : Angela location : Newyork appointment_status : confirmed**

However, if you choose **Plain text** and the incoming data is name=Angela&location=Newywork&appointment_status=confirmed, Zoho RPA will interpret the data as: **data : name=Angela&location=Newywork&appointment_status=confirmed**

In some cases, selecting the wrong data type may not trigger the flow as expected.

How to configure

- 1. In the *My Flows* section of Zoho RPA, click + Create, then click Create flow.
- 2. Enter the flow name, and optionally include a description.
- 3. Click Create.
- 4. Click **Configure** in the *Webhook trigger* box.
- 5. Your custom URL will be available. This URL is unique for each flow. Click **Copy** and paste it in your code or application.
- 6. Select the format (JSON, form data, or plain text) in which the application/code sends the data to Zoho RPA, then click **Next**.
- 7. Click Test to check if everything is working correctly with sample data.

| Webhook Trigger > Configure | | \times | | |
|--|---|----------|--|--|
| | Test the Webhook | | | |
| B | Test your webhook trigger by sending data to the URL RETEST | | | |
| • | We have received the following payload. We will use this to extract data. | | | |
| Webhook | Payload | | | |
| Triggers when data is received from an app or code through a unique webhook URL | <pre>{ name : "Angela", office : "Newyork", appointment status : "confirmed" } Advanced settings ~ </pre> | | | |
| | BACK DONE | = | | |

8. After configuring, click **Done** and add actions to your flow.

Using advanced settings

Once you've tested the webhook, you can access additional options to configure the trigger by clicking **Advanced settings**.

| Webhook Trigger > Configure | | \times |
|--|--|----------|
| | Test the Webhook | |
| ۰ (ه | Test your webhook trigger by sending data to the URL | |
| | We have received the following payload. We will use this to extract data. | |
| Webhook | Payload | |
| Triggers when data is received from an app or code through a unique webhook URL | <pre>{ name : "Angela", office : "Newyork", appointment status : "confirmed" } Advanced settings \v Extract headers and use them in the next steps Extract part of the payload The entire payload will be extracted by default. Specify a key to extract only that part of the payload.E.g: When you use 'contact.phone the part defined by 'phones' will be extracted from 'contact' </pre> | es' |
| | Trigger flow for each entry Enable this option to trigger the flow for each entry of an array in the payload | |
| | RACK DONE | |
| | | |

Extract headers and use them in the next steps

This option will extract the headers in the payload received, and will provide them as variables under Webhook in the Insert variable section in the flow builder.

Tip:

- Headers hold additional information transferred along with the HTTP request for purposes such as authorization and identification.
- Suppose you have configured the same webhook URL in multiple applications or servers. Use this option to determine which app has sent the data through the URL (data from which app has triggered the flow).

Extract part of the payload

This option will selectively extract the data from within the specified object present in the received payload. Only the value of the key mentioned will be extracted and all other values will be discarded. In the example given below, the payload contains "order", the parent object, and "sale"—the nested object.



If you only need the data contained within sale to be available for use in your flow, you can enter order.sale in this option. The output will then look like:

| රේම Webho | ook | | | | | | input | outpu |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------|--------|--------|----------------|---------|-------|-------|
| • 24.0 | 1.22 4:09:36 PM | 4 | | | | | | ~~~ |
| { | | | | | | | | |
| | "webh | ookTrigge | er": { | | | | | |
| | | "paylo | ad": { | | | | | |
| | | | "order | :": { | | | | |
| | | | | "sale" | ': { | | | |
| | | | | | "is_new": "yes | з", | | |
| | | | | | "venue_code": | "vc878" | | |
| | | | | } | | | | |
| | | | } | | | | | |
| | | } | | | | | | |
| | } | | | | | | | |
| } | | | | | | | | |

Trigger flow for each entry

With this option enabled, if the response payload has multiple objects, the flow will trigger, and execute for as many objects present in the payload.

By default, the flow will trigger for each element. For example, suppose Zoho RPA receives the data as [{"name" : "Angela", "location" : "Newyork", "appointment_status" : "confirmed"}, {"name" : "Tom", "location" : "Pasadena", "appointment_status" : "not confirmed"}].

Here, {"name" : "Angela", "location" : "Newyork", "appointment status" : "confirmed"} is an element and {"name" : "Tom", "location" : "Pasadena", "appointment_ status" : "not confirmed"} is another element. This

payload has two objects in it. The flow will trigger two times. The first execution will pass the values from the first object, the second execution with the second object, and so on.

Using variables from webhook trigger in conditions

While using Decision logic, it isn't possible to directly select a webhook trigger's output variable for the test condition. To use a specific variable from your webhook trigger, follow these steps:

- 1. Add a **Set Variable** logic following the webhook trigger to create a new variable.
- 2. Provide a name for the new variable.
- 3. Click on the field under *Value*, then click on the required webhook variable from the *Insert Variable* section on the right.
- 4. Click **Done**.
- 5. While configuring a test condition, select the new variable you've created from the dropdown.

Frequently asked questions

1. Why is the flow not triggered, even though I have sent data from my third-party service via a webhook call?

Make sure that you have chosen the right data type (JSON, form data, or plain text) while configuring the trigger. If the wrong option is selected, the flow may not be triggered.