Microsoft Teams

Harness the power of AI with plugins for Microsoft 365 Copilot
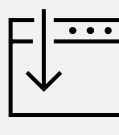
Introducing plugins for Microsoft 365 Copilot

Plugins allow Microsoft 365 Copilot to directly interact with line of business (LOB) and Independent software vendor (ISV) apps, data, and services, amplifying the transformative power of Copilot. Copilot combines the power of foundation models with your data in Microsoft Graph and Microsoft 365 apps to turn your words into the most powerful productivity tool. ChatGPT plugins, Teams message extensions, Power Platform connectors ,and API endpoints can be used as plugins for Copilot. Plugins are tools that augment the capabilities of Copilot, elevating your user experience.
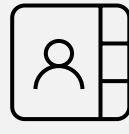
Plugins allow Copilot to:

Access real-time information

Retrieve knowledge-based resources

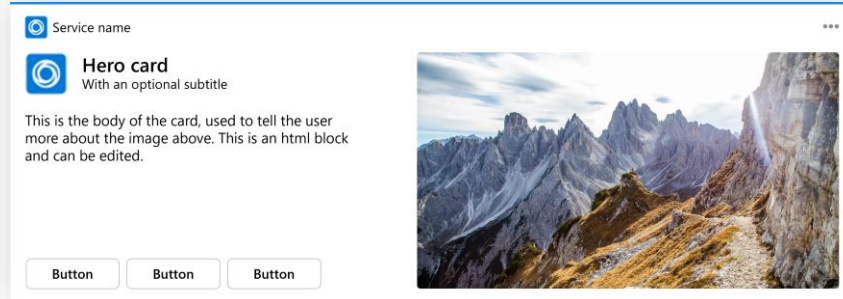**Perform** actions across all your apps and data

Safely act on user's behalf

Plugins contain:

```
{
    "$schema": "https://developer.microsoft.com/en-us/json-
schemas/teams/v1.16/MicrosoftTeams.schema.json",
    "manifestVersion": "1.16",
    "description": {
        "short": "${{TEAMS_APP_DESCRIPTION}}",
        "full": "Full description of tab0418"
    },
}
```

Manifest describes basic application metadata—including app name, company, icon, and more

Service name
Hero card
With an optional subtitle
This is the body of the card, used to tell the user more about the image above. This is an html block and can be edited.
Button   Button   Button

Adaptive Cards offer templates for rich end-user interactions with Copilot, Microsoft Teams, and Microsoft Outlook

How to build a plugin

Scenario 1: Start with Teams message extension (ME)

☐ Build a Teams ME
Follow these quick steps to create a Teams ME

☐ Use an existing Teams ME
If you already have a message extension, then you already have a plugin

✓ Teams message extension running on manifest version 1.13+ will automatically work as a plugin for Copilot

↑ Teams message extension running on manifest version 1.12 will need to be upgraded to the latest manifest

Scenario 2: Start with an API
Open Teams Toolkit for Visual Studio Code*

1	Click "Create plugin"
2	Reference API spec
3	Update manifest
4	Test plugin
5	Preview and publish

*Join the developer early access program at aka.ms/plugins-dev-waitlist

Learn more

Attributes of a good plugin

App description
Comprehensive summary of app, supported scenarios, feature capabilities, and related keywords using ShortDecription and longDescription fields

Skill parameter descriptions
Detailed explanation of search and action skills along with associated parameters to trigger the right large language models(LLM) skill and input

Adaptive Card response
Use actionable response and reference content to enhance user experience and productivity

Including links in plugin response
Display live content and loop components through Microsoft 365 ecosystem with streamlined LLM entity link posts, reference process entity requests, and embed links in Adaptive Cards

Deep content retrieval
Send targeted requests and obtain grounding data with compatible APIs that leverage your LLM and support deep content retrieval scenarios

Building tips and tricks

To ensure Copilot takes full advantage of your plugin capabilities it's important to:
✓ Include good descriptions in your manifest
✓ Test different descriptions and instructions
✓ Keep your API spec and manifest file up-to-date

Ways to manage API-based plugins

Use Azure API Management to access an API gateway and policy engine to throttle, cache, monitor, authenticate, and more

Use Teams Toolkit for Visual Studio to create an API management instance and apply opinionated policy configurations at deployment

Connect Copilot to your data sources

Microsoft Graph connectors provide an easy way to bring your data into Microsoft Graph, powering Copilot to make context-aware decisions. With the addition of Semantic Index for Copilot, discoverability of your content within Microsoft 365 services is improved. This index is a sophisticated map of user and company data, critical for getting relevant, actionable responses. You can easily leverage this data for everyday tasks, whether it's writing an email, meeting on Teams, or using search.

Build Microsoft Graph connectors today

Get started building plugins for Copilot

Discover the power of AI with plugins at **aka.ms/plugins-dev**