

# Getting Started with the API

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Consuming the Autoaddress 3.0 API is easy, simply follow the steps below.

## Get a Token

You will first need to authenticate the session to create a token using the *createtoken* endpoint. To call this endpoint, you will need to pass a valid API key.

See the [Create Token](#) documentation for full details.

## Search for an Address

When the end user is typing, each keystroke is passed to the *autocomplete* endpoint. As the end user continues to type, keep calling *autocomplete*, passing the entered text and the same token from step 1.

See the [Autocomplete](#) documentation for full details.

## Display the Options

Each *autocomplete* call will return an array options and each would contain a link object. The link object contains two important attributes:

1. **title** - The address text to be displayed to the end user
2. **href** - The hyperlink to follow if this option is chosen

You will need to show the `link.title` attribute for each element of the options array to the end-user. Once you have displayed the available options, the end-user will need to select one.

## Follow the Link

Each option returned has a **href** attribute which will invoke another endpoint.

There are two endpoints that this attribute can call to:

1. **Lookup Endpoint** - This will return the fully captured address
2. **Drilldown Endpoint** - This will return further options

When the attribute invokes the *drilldown* endpoint, there are still options to display. These options should continue to be displayed until the end-user selects a full address and then the attribute will call the *lookup* endpoint.

See the [Drilldown](#) documentation for full details.

## Capture the Data

When the type attribute equals "**lookup**", you can access details of the address using the "**address**" attribute.

For any further info you have selected in the Account Center, you can access this data via the "**data**" attribute in the response.

See the [Lookup](#) and [GetData](#) documentation for full details.

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