

Events

- [What are events?](#)
- [List of Events](#)
- [Receiving Events](#)
- [Receiving Events on the Event Listener URL](#)
- [Responding to Events](#)
- [Receiving Events on a Widget or in the Browser](#)
- [List of Events sent to a Widget or Browser](#)

What are events?

Flock uses events to notify apps in real-time about interesting things like:

- App installs and uninstalls
- New messages received by the app bot
- User actions like when a button is pressed, or when a slash command is entered.

List of Events

- `app.install`
- `app.uninstall`
- `chat.generateUrlPreview`
- `chat.receiveMessage`
- `client.flockmlAction`
- `client.messageAction`
- `client.openAttachmentWidget`
- `client.pressButton`
- `client.slashCommand`
- `client.widgetAction`

Receiving Events

Whenever an event is triggered, it is sent to the app in one of two ways

- Either they are sent to the Event Listener URL.
- Or they may be sent to a [widget](#) or the browser (in the form of a URL query parameter)

Some events like `app.install` can only be sent to the event listener URL, whereas others like `client.pressButton` (that are triggered in response to user actions in Flock), can be sent either to the event listener or to a widget or browser URL, depending on how the corresponding integration was configured. See [Can any event be sent to a widget or browser URL?](#) for a list of these events.

Receiving Events on the Event Listener URL

The *event listener URL* is an HTTPS endpoint that you provide while [creating the app](#) in the dev dashboard. Events are sent to this URL in the form of an HTTP POST request with a JSON body. The app may choose to process certain events and ignore others.

For example, if the callback URL is `https://example.com/events`, the HTTP request as shown below is sent to the app.

Name	Description
flockEvent	The event JSON, serialized into a string
flockEventToken	Event token to verify that the event was sent by Flock
flockClient	Either desktop, ios, or android.
flockWidgetType	The widget type (<i>modal, sidebar or attachment</i>) in which the content is rendered.

For example, if one configures an attachment picker button in the developer dashboard, when a user clicks on this button, the `client.pressButton` event along with the event token and other parameters is added to the URL like this:

```
https://<widget url>?
flockEventToken=<token>&flockClient=desktop&flockWidgetType=modal&flockEvent=
%7B%22name%22%3A%22client.pressButton%22%2C%22button%22%3A%
22chatTabButton%22%2C%22userId%22%3A%22u%3A%22%2C%22userName%22%3A%
22Alyssa%20P.%20Hacker%22%2C%22chat%22%3A%22u%3A%22%2C%22chatName%22%
3A%22Ben%20Bitdiddle%22%7D
```

List of Events sent to a Widget or Browser

Only the following events can be sent to a widget or browser.

- `client.pressButton`
- `client.slashCommand`
- `client.widgetAction`
- `client.flockmlAction`
- `client.openAttachmentWidget`