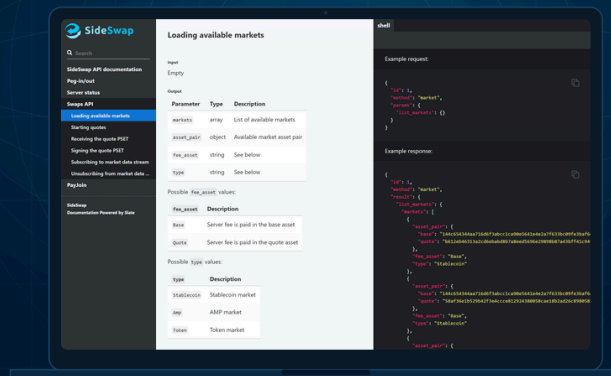




Make markets and build on the SideSwap API

SIDESWAP GUIDE Partners · API

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PARTNERS · API

Market making and the API

SideSwap welcomes programmatic trading. Stream bids and offers into the order books, take quotes from your own program, or bring your users' order flow as a partner. Your keys stay on your own machine and every trade settles as one Liquid transaction.

sideswap.io/guides/market-making-and-api · Updated 9 Oct 2026

At a glance

The API

JSON-RPC 2.0 over WebSocket
Documented at sideswap.io/docs

Market making

The SideSwap dealer
Open source, with ready Linux builds

Swapping from code

Swaps API or SideSwap Manager
Your program signs its own inputs

Fees

Makers pay none, takers 0.2%
Plus a small fixed network fee

Testnet

Every tool runs on Liquid testnet
Start there, then switch to Prod

Three ways in

Market maker

Run the dealer
Keeps your orders in the books and signs each match

Taker

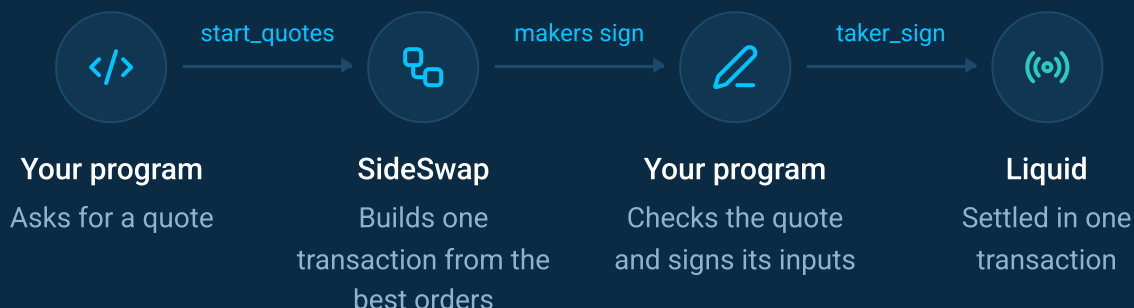
Swaps API or SideSwap Manager
Takes quotes from the books in one transaction

Partner

Your app with a partner API key
Flow through your key is tracked and shared

How an API swap works

ONE SWAP



More than one maker can fill a swap. Online orders can be partly matched, offline orders only in full. A quote can be accepted for about 30 seconds, and a fresh one arrives every few seconds while you wait. SideSwap never holds the coins. The swap settles when both sides have signed.

Swap from your own program

The Swaps API takes market orders. Load the markets with `list_markets`, ask for quotes with `start_quotes`, download the transaction with `get_quote`, sign your inputs and send it back with `taker_sign`. Your program holds the keys. The [API documentation](#) shows every message, and how the amounts you deliver and receive follow from the quote.

SideSwap Manager does the wallet part for you. It is a self-hosted program that holds your wallet, opens a WebSocket on your machine and takes simple requests to receive, send, swap and make peg-ins. You build it from the [sideswap_rust](#) sources.

PayJoin lets a wallet with no L-BTC pay its network fee in USDt or EURx. SideSwap adds the L-BTC inputs and takes a small fee in the asset.



If a request fails

A failed send or swap request does not prove that nothing was broadcast. Check the transaction before you try again.



Coins the API takes

Native SegWit, nested SegWit and AMP multisig coins. Legacy and Taproot coins are not supported.

Make markets with the dealer

The dealer is SideSwap's open source market making program. It keeps your orders in the books, signs each match in the time the server allows and moves your prices as the market moves.

1 Pick your markets

Stablecoin and AMP markets are supported as they are. Of the token markets only a few are, and you add others with `whitelisted_assets`. The [market list](#) shows what the dealer trades today.

2 Pick the wallet

There are three dealers, the same program with a different wallet each. The table after these steps compares them.

3 Set how prices are made

Automatically from a price source, Binance, Bitfinex, BitPreço, the SideSwap index price or a fixed price in USD, with your margin on top. Or from your own program, through the dealer's HTTP and WebSocket endpoints.

4 Get the program

Download a ready Linux build from sideswap.io/download, or build it from source with Rust. The [dealer tutorial](#) has a config for each case.

5 Start on testnet

Set `env` to Testnet in the config and start the dealer. Your orders appear in the order book on testnet.sideswap.io. Switch to Prod when you are ready.

LWK

A single signature wallet

Needs only a mnemonic, cannot hold AMP assets

AMP

An AMP account on the Green backend

Trades every market, AMP assets included

Elements node

Your own Elements node

For high volume, more to set up



Keep the dealer online

Online orders need the dealer running. If it does not sign a match in time, the server disconnects it and pulls its orders for a while.



AMP markets

The issuer must have approved your dealer's AMP ID, and buy orders need L-BTC or USDt in the AMP account. See [AMP assets and securities](#).

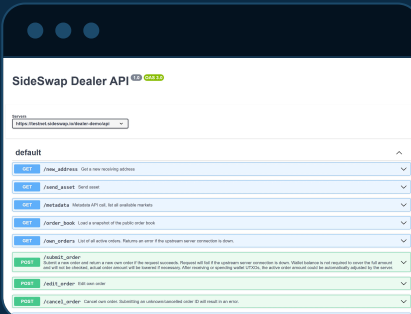
Try it on testnet



Explore the dealer API

SideSwap runs a demo dealer with some balance on Liquid testnet. Its [Swagger UI](#) lists every call, from balances and new addresses to submitting, editing and cancelling orders, and you can try each one in the browser.

testnet.sideswap.io/dealer-demo

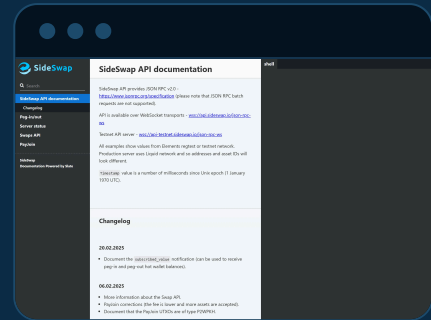


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Read the API

The [API documentation](#) covers the JSON-RPC API, the Swaps API and PayJoin, with an example for every message. Point your program at the testnet server first.

sideswap.io/docs



Partners and API keys

A wallet, exchange or app that brings order flow to SideSwap can become a partner. You get a partner API key and send it in the LoginClient message when your app connects. Revenue from the flow through your key is tracked automatically and shared with you every month.

The key only says the flow is yours. It cannot move funds or place orders for you.

The terms are on the [partners page](#), and the team answers at hello@sideswap.io.



Your own asset

Any asset in the Liquid asset registry can have a token market on SideSwap. The issuer provides the liquidity in its own market, and the dealer is there to do it with. SideSwap does not make markets for listed assets, and a listing is not an endorsement.

Good to know



Your mnemonic

The dealer and the manager sign with the mnemonic in their config, or in an environment variable. Generate it securely and keep a backup. A leaked or lost mnemonic is an irreversible loss of funds.



One wallet, one program

Use a wallet only for the dealer. Never open the same mnemonic in the SideSwap app while the dealer runs on it.



Fees

Makers pay no fee. The taker pays 0.2%, taken on the L-BTC side of the swap, or on the stablecoin side in a market without L-BTC. A small fixed fee on top pays the Liquid network fee. Every quote shows both.



Minimum order

A limit order must be at least 0.00025 L-BTC, or 25 USDt or 25 EURx in a market without L-BTC.



One request at a time

JSON-RPC batch requests are not supported. Send each request on its own.



Peg-out

Peg-out returns once the new keys are issued and the peg is restored. Updates are posted on sideswap.io/news.