

# API Key in .NET WebAPI Project

Create a webapi project, e.g.:

```
dotnet new webapi -o MyMicroservice
```

Add a middleware class:

```
public class ApiKeyMiddleware
{
    private readonly string _apiKeyName;
    private readonly string _apiKeyValue;

    private readonly RequestDelegate _next;

    public ApiKeyMiddleware(RequestDelegate next, string apiKeyName, string
apiKeyValue)
    {
        _next = next;
        _apiKeyName = apiKeyName;
        _apiKeyValue = apiKeyValue;
    }

    public async Task InvokeAsync(HttpContext context)
    {
        if (!context.Request.Headers.TryGetValue(_apiKeyName, out var
extractedApiKey))
        {
            context.Response.StatusCode = 401;
            await context.Response.WriteAsync("API Key was not provided.");
            return;
        }

        if (!_apiKeyValue.Equals(extractedApiKey))
        {
            context.Response.StatusCode = 403;
            await context.Response.WriteAsync("Unauthorized client.");
            return;
        }

        await _next(context);
    }
}
```

Handle the API key check in Program.cs with the following code. Place this before the `app.MapControllers()` call:

```
string? apiKeyName = "My-API-Key-Name";
string? apiKeyValue = "85a80751-cc34-4a6e-9ad9-4d9c9bea403c"; // Do NOT
```

```
store your actual key value inline! // Retrieve  
it from a protected // location,  
e.g., an Azure key vault.  
  
// Validate the request:  
app.UseMiddleware<ApiKeyMiddleware>(apiKeyName, apiKeyValue);
```

Calls to the API look like this:

```
GET https://your_webservice_url/some_endpoint  
Accept: application/json  
My-API-Key-Name: 85a80751-cc34-4a6e-9ad9-4d9c9bea403c
```

[dotnet](#)

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Last update: **2025/06/17 07:57**

