

TRIGGERS IN N8N

What this lesson is about:

This video explains what triggers are, why they matter, and the different types of triggers available in n8n. Triggers are the starting points of your automations – they tell your workflow when to begin.

What is a trigger?

A **trigger** is the first step in your automation. It listens for an event (like a new message or form submission) and starts your workflow.

Without a trigger, your automation doesn't run.

Types of Triggers in n8n:

- 1. Manual Trigger** – You start it yourself by clicking “Test Workflow”
 - Great for testing or running workflows on demand
- 2. App Event Trigger** – Runs when something happens in connected apps
 - Examples: new Gmail email, Airtable update, Google Sheet edit
 - These nodes are built-in, so no need to set up connections manually
- 3. Scheduled Trigger** – Runs at specific time intervals
 - Every hour, every day at 8 AM, every Monday, etc.
 - Perfect for automations that run regularly (e.g. daily email summary)
- 4. Webhook Trigger** – Starts when another system sends data to a unique URL
 - Great for apps without built-in integration
 - Used to receive data from Stripe, external APIs, or custom apps
- 5. Form Submission Trigger** – Runs when someone fills out a built-in n8n form
 - No need for external form tools – embed the form on your site
 - Useful for collecting leads, feedback, or any custom form inputs
- 6. Triggered by Another Workflow** – One workflow can start another
 - Helps break complex automations into smaller, organized workflows
 - Keeps everything modular and easier to manage
- 7. Chat Trigger** – Starts the workflow based on chat input
 - Useful for interacting with your agents directly in chat interfaces

Setup Tips:

- Always set your time zone in workflow settings for accurate scheduling
- You can search for a trigger or add it using the plus (+) button