Celery Python task queue

CONCEPTS

The caller only publishes a message; a separate worker process runs the task. No worker, no work.

Your app task.delay()
↓ publish
Broker RabbitMQ or Redis
↓ consume
Worker runs the task
↓ store
Result backend optional, for .get()

Run the worker from the project root so -A proj can import the app module.

Results are only kept if a result backend is configured; without one .get() fails.

WORKER

`celery -A proj worker -l INFO`
Start a worker

`-c <n>`
Number of pool processes

`-Q <q1>,<q2>`
Consume only these queues

`-n <name>@%h`
Set the node name

`--autoscale=<max>,<min>`
Grow and shrink the pool

`-B`
Embed beat in the worker

`--time-limit <s>`
Hard limit per task

DEFINE AND CALL

`@app.task`
Declare a task

`@shared_task`
Task without importing the app

`@app.task(bind=True)`
Get self for retry and request

`add.delay(2, 3)`
Queue with plain arguments

`add.apply_async((2, 3), countdown=10)`
Queue with options

DEFINE AND CALL (cont.)

`apply_async(eta=<datetime>)`
Run at an absolute time

`apply_async(queue="<q>")`
Send to a named queue

`add.s(2, 3)`
Signature: a task call as data

`res.get(timeout=<s>)`
Block for the result

`res.ready() / res.state`
Check for completion

CANVAS

`chain(a.s(), b.s())`
Pipe each result into the next

`a.s() | b.s() | c.s()`
Chain with the pipe operator

`group(a.s(i) for i in r)`
Run many tasks in parallel

`chord(group)(callback.s())`
Run a callback after the group

A chain passes each return value as the first argument of the next task; use .si() to ignore it.

RETRIES AND ERRORS

`self.retry(exc=e, countdown=<s>)`
Retry the task later

`autoretry_for=(<Exc>,)`
Retry automatically on these errors

`max_retries=<n>`
Give up after n retries

`acks_late=True`
Acknowledge after the task finishes

Use bind=True to get self.retry; the call raises Retry, so nothing after it runs.

ROUTING AND CONFIG

`task_routes = {"<task>": {"queue": "<q>"}}`
Route tasks to queues

ROUTING AND CONFIG (cont.)

`broker_url = "redis://localhost:6379/0"`
Set the broker

`result_backend = "redis://..."`
Set the result backend

PERIODIC TASKS

`celery -A proj beat -l INFO`
Start the scheduler

`beat_schedule = {...}`
Declare the schedule

`crontab(hour=7, minute=30)`
Cron-style schedule

Run exactly one beat per schedule, or every task fires multiple times.

INSPECT AND CONTROL

`celery -A proj status`
Workers that answer

`celery -A proj inspect active`
Tasks running now

`celery -A proj inspect reserved`
Fetched, not started

`celery -A proj inspect registered`
Tasks each worker knows

`celery -A proj inspect -d <node> -j active`
Target one node, JSON output

`celery -A proj control revoke <id>`
Cancel a task

OPERATE

`celery -A proj call <task> -a '[2, 3]'`
Fire a task from the shell

`celery -A proj purge -f`
Drop all waiting messages, no prompt

`kill -TERM <pid>`
Warm shutdown: finish running tasks