

I'm not a bot





































WhatsApp has become the most popular messaging app in the world, but it has also leaped off mobile devices and onto our browsers. Many of us value seeing our messages come onto our computer screens in real-time as we work, and WhatsApp gives us the option to reply more easily and quickly using our computer keyboards. Here's everything you need to know about WhatsApp Web and how to get started using it. Editor's note: We used a Google Pixel 7 running Android 14 to develop these steps. We also verified the steps work on Apple devices using an iPhone 12 Mini running iOS 17.2. What is WhatsApp Web, and how does it differ from the desktop app?Edgar Cervantes / Android AuthorityWhatsApp Web is the online browser version of the mobile app. It enables you to receive your messages on your computer screen in real time, reply by typing on your keyboard, start new conversations and groups, and search chat histories. You can receive message notifications from your browser if you have them enabled in the browser settings.However, unlike desktop and mobile apps, it doesn't allow you to make telephone and video calls. You also can't change your status. So there are a few shortcomings with the browser version — but nothing that would be a deal-breaker. What are the differences between WhatsApp Web and the mobile app?Edgar Cervantes / Android AuthorityThe differences between the web version and the mobile app are the same as the desktop app. The mobile app gives you the full WhatsApp experience with all the bells and whistles. The browser version misses things like calling, video calls, and status updates. Setting up the browser version of WhatsApp is very quick and easy. The following steps assume you already have an account on the mobile app. If not, you need to do that first. On your computer, launch your browser and go to web.whatsapp.com. Now, launch WhatsApp on your phone. On Android, tap on the three-dot menu icon and select Linked devices. On iPhone, tap on the Settings tab and select Linked devices. Tap on Link a device. Use the phone's camera to scan the QR code on the browser. That's it. After a few seconds, your chats will be accessible through WhatsApp Web. You need to bear in mind a security vulnerability when using the browser version. When you close the browser tab — or the browser completely — it doesn't log you out of your WhatsApp account. If you're worried about your privacy, it's essential to sign out of your WhatsApp account before closing the browser. On your smartphone, launch WhatsApp. On Android, tap on the three-dot menu icon and select Linked devices. On iPhone, tap on the Settings tab and select Linked devices. Tap on the linked computer. Hit Log out. One of the most common complaints people make about WhatsApp is the lack of an iPad version. Until Facebook rectifies that problem, WhatsApp Web is an excellent alternative to use on the tablet. The process is very similar. Open a browser on the iPad and go to web.whatsapp.com. You will see the QR code on the screen. Follow the same smartphone steps mentioned above to connect your iPad to WhatsApp. If you're using the Safari browser, you can even make an icon for the screen by tapping the Share button and choosing Add to Home Screen in the menu. The only downside to using WhatsApp on an iPad is that the notifications are pretty terrible. You're relying on the browser to deliver the notifications, not WhatsApp. So unless you don't need to reply to messages immediately, you would need to keep the browser open and the iPad window awake to see incoming new messages.FAQs Can you video chat on WhatsApp Web?No, video calls are unavailable on WhatsApp Web. Can you make a phone call on WhatsApp Web?No, like video chatting, audio calls are also unavailable on the browser version of the app. Can I update my status on WhatsApp Web?No, you can't update your status on WhatsApp Web. WhatsApp Web is an incredibly useful extension of the popular messaging app, allowing users to access their chats on a computer. This feature bridges the gap between mobile and desktop communication, whether for work or personal convenience. Following simple steps, users can link their accounts and make the most of WhatsApp's capabilities on a larger screen. This guide provides detailed instructions, highlights features, and addresses common questions and concerns.What is WhatsApp Web?WhatsApp Web is a browser-based version of the WhatsApp mobile application. It mirrors your phone's WhatsApp account, syncing all messages, contacts, and media files to your computer. This enables you to send and receive messages, share files, and access conversations in real time without relying solely on your smartphone. WhatsApp Web doesn't function independently; it relies on an active connection to the WhatsApp app on your phone. Any actions performed on the web version, such as sending messages or deleting chats, are instantly reflected on the mobile app.How to Set Up WhatsApp WebSetting up WhatsApp Web is a straightforward process. Here's how you can do it: Open a web browser on your computer and navigate to web.whatsapp.com. A QR code will be displayed on the screen. Open WhatsApp on your Android or iOS Select 'Link a Device' from the Linked Devices menu. Authenticate using your device's security method, such as a fingerprint, face recognition, or PIN. Scan the QR code on the computer screen. This will link your WhatsApp account to the web browser. Your WhatsApp chats will now appear on the computer screen, allowing you to send messages, share files, and more.If you need to unlink a device from WhatsApp Web, the process is quick and easy: Open WhatsApp on your phone and navigate to the 'Linked Devices' section. View Active Sessions in which a list of all devices currently linked to your WhatsApp account will appear. Tap on the device you wish to remove and select 'Log Out'. This will immediately disconnect that session.This feature is particularly useful if you forget to log out from a public or shared computer.Key Features of WhatsApp WebWhatsApp Web offers several features that make it a powerful tool for users: Messaging: Send and receive text messages, photos, videos and voice notes. File Sharing: Easily share documents, PDFs, images, and videos. Media Viewing: View and download media files directly on your computer. Notifications: Receive desktop notifications for incoming messages, ensuring you don't miss important updates. Customisation: Adjust settings like notifications and chat backgrounds to suit your preferences. Syncing: Any changes made on WhatsApp Web are mirrored on the mobile app. These features provide a seamless user experience, especially for those who frequently switch between devices.What are the Limitations of Using WhatsApp Web?While WhatsApp Web is highly convenient, it does come with certain limitations: Dependency on Mobile: WhatsApp Web requires an active connection to the WhatsApp app on your phone. If your phone's battery dies or lose internet connectivity, WhatsApp Web will stop functioning. No Voice or Video Calls: Unlike the mobile app, WhatsApp Web does not support voice or video calling. Limited Settings: Some advanced settings, such as account management and privacy adjustments, can only be accessed through the mobile app. Browser Dependency: WhatsApp Web works best on specific browsers like Chrome, Firefox, and Edge. Other browsers may not provide full functionality.Despite these drawbacks, WhatsApp Web remains a valuable tool for many users.How to Make Calls Using WhatsApp WebCurrently, WhatsApp Web does not offer voice or video calling capabilities. Users who wish to make calls must use the mobile or the desktop app. This limitation has been a point of feedback for WhatsApp, and there's hope that future updates may include calling functionality for the web version.Troubleshooting Connectivity Issues on WhatsApp WebIf you experience problems with WhatsApp Web, consider these troubleshooting tips: Check Internet Connection: Ensure both your phone and computer have stable and active internet connections. Restart Browser: Close and reopen the browser to refresh the connection. Update WhatsApp: Verify that you're using the latest version of the WhatsApp app on your phone. Clear Browser Cache: Clear your browser's cache and cookies to resolve loading issues. Switch Browsers: If the issue persists, try using a different browser. These steps should resolve the most common issues, ensuring a smooth experience with WhatsApp Web.Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)Is the video or voice call feature available on WhatsApp Web?No, these features are currently unavailable on WhatsApp Web. Use the mobile app for calls.Can you enable dark mode on WhatsApp Web?Yes, you can activate dark mode by going to the three-dot menu, selecting 'Settings', and choosing the 'Dark' theme.How many days will WhatsApp Web remain active once I log in?WhatsApp Web stays active as long as your phone has an internet connection. If inactive, it may log out automatically after 14 days.Is WhatsApp Web secure?Yes, WhatsApp Web uses end-to-end encryption to keep your messages private. Always log out from shared or public computers for added security.Can I use WhatsApp Web on multiple computers?You can link your WhatsApp account to multiple computers, but only one session can be active at a time. Want to use WhatsApp from your computer? While there's no standalone WhatsApp client, you can use WhatsApp's web app and desktop client to send messages via your smartphone. Here's how to use WhatsApp on your Windows PC, Mac, or other type of computer. Should You Use WhatsApp on the Web or Download the App? The desktop app and the web interface are very similar, but there are a few critical differences. The big ones are features—the WhatsApp web interface doesn't allow you to place audio or video calls. Given that limitation, we'd generally recommend that you use the desktop client whenever you can. Click the phone or video camera icon in the upper right corner to start a voice or video call respectively. Once you're in a video call, you can even share your screen if you want. Just click the screen share button at the bottom, then select the window you'd like to share. The major advantage you get from accessing WhatsApp through your browser is convenience. You can use WhatsApp Web from any desktop browser (all major browsers like Safari, Chrome, Firefox, and Edge are supported) on any operating system. You'll also get notifications for new messages. You can even use it on PCs that you can't install apps on (like a public computer), but you should exercise caution if you do that. Use a private window, make sure to log out, and keep in mind that software on the PC may be able to snoop on what you send and receive. If you want a dedicated app, you can use the WhatsApp Desktop application for Windows and macOS. If you don't want to use the link, you can always search "WhatsApp" in the Microsoft or Apple Stores. For added features, you can even use third-party apps. ChatMate for WhatsApp (\$2.99) is a great alternative for Mac users. If you don't want to use the app, just continue to the next section. The process of connecting your iPhone or Android smartphone to WhatsApp Web or WhatsApp Desktop is the same. We'll walk you through the process of using WhatsApp Web. Open your favorite browser and go to web.whatsapp.com. Here, you'll see a QR code on the right side of the screen. Now, you'll have to scan the QR code using your iPhone or Android smartphone. If you're using an Android smartphone, tap the "Menu" button from the toolbar in the top-right corner, then select the "Linked Devices" option. Select "Link a Device" in the next Window. Now, point your smartphone's camera at the QR code. In a second, the QR code will be scanned, and you'll be logged in to WhatsApp Web. If you're using an iPhone, go to the "Settings" tab, then tap "Linked Devices." In the next window, tap "Link Device." Finally, point the iPhone camera at the QR code. Once it's scanned, WhatsApp Web will show all of your messages.You can click a message to open it and send messages to anyone. You can do almost everything on WhatsApp Web that you can from your smartphone. You can send GIFs, photos, videos, documents, emojis, and more. To allow message notifications in your browser, click the "Turn On Desktop Notifications" button. Then confirm from the pop-up to allow notifications for WhatsApp Web. (This pop-up will depend on the browser that you're using.) Once you're done using WhatsApp Web, make sure to log out. To do this, click the "Menu" button from the top toolbar and then choose the "Log Out" option. Use WhatsApp constantly for both work and personal chat? Here's how to secure your WhatsApp account. As one of the most popular messaging services, you've already heard of WhatsApp. From its humble beginnings in 2009—two years before Apple introduced iMessage—to its acquisition by Facebook (now Meta) in 2014, WhatsApp has become the dominant messaging platform around the globe. In recent years, it's grown even more potent with new features like video messages, self-destructing voice messages, the ability to edit sent messages, and more. We even finally got an WhatsApp iPad app in May 2025. As popular as the WhatsApp mobile apps are for iPhone and Android, it's easy to forget that you can also use WhatsApp on a desktop or laptop computer. The company provides native apps for Macs and Windows PCs, plus a web-based version that works in any modern web browser on nearly any platform. WhatsApp Web is a great way to keep in touch with friends, family, and colleagues when your smartphone is not handy or you prefer not to type messages on a smaller touchscreen keyboard. Moreover, you can now use WhatsApp Web even when your phone is offline. At one time, WhatsApp needed to be running on your smartphone to relay messages between WhatsApp's servers and the browser-based version of the app. Thankfully, WhatsApp added a multi-device feature a few years ago that lets you directly link up to three other devices to your account. One small catch is that you'll still need to use WhatsApp on your iPhone or Android smartphone to link those devices to your account. Since your WhatsApp profile is tied entirely to your phone number, there's no username or password to log in; instead, you must authenticate WhatsApp Web through its mobile apps. This could be a problem if you want to access WhatsApp Web from a new computer and your phone is dead. Otherwise, once logged in with your web browser, you can chat away even when your phone's battery is dead or offline. How to sign in to WhatsApp Web from an iPhoneUsing WhatsApp Web from your iPhone is easy; just launch WhatsApp Web in Chrome, Firefox, Opera, Safari, or Edge and scan the QR code on the computer with the WhatsApp mobile app from your phone. WhatsApp Web automatically launches in the browser and remains active until you log out from it on your computer or phone. Step 1: In your computer's browser, navigate to . Jess Reyes / Digital Trends Step 2: Launch WhatsApp on your iPhone. Step 3: On the iPhone, select the Settings tab in the bottom-right corner, and then choose Linked devices. Jesse Hollington / Digital Trends Step 4: Select the Link a device button and authenticate with Face ID or Touch ID as needed. The camera view will open in WhatsApp. Step 5: Hold your phone up to the code on your screen to pair it up. The WhatsApp page in your browser should refresh immediately to log into WhatsApp and show your current list of chats. How to sign in to WhatsApp Web from an Android phoneFor Android phones, here are the steps to follow after opening the WhatsApp website on your computer: Step 1: On your Android phone, launch WhatsApp and select the three dots in the upper-right of the Chat page. Step 2: Select Linked devices and then select Link a device. Use your fingerprint or enter your device passcode if prompted. Jesse Hollington / Digital Trends Step 3: Hold your phone up to the QR code on your computer to pair it. Step 4: Your smartphone account is now linked to the web version of the app. The WhatsApp page in your browser should refresh immediately to log into WhatsApp and show your current list of chats. How to sign in to WhatsApp Web without a QR codeSigning in to WhatsApp Web is typically done by scanning a QR code on your iPhone or Android phone. If that's not doable, you can also link by entering the phone number of your WhatsApp account, which will give you an eight-digit code to key into WhatsApp on your phone to authenticate the link instead. However, the steps are otherwise the same in either case. Step 1: From the WhatsApp Web sign-in page, select Log in with phone number. Jess Reyes / Digital Trends Step 2: On the next screen, enter the phone number of your WhatsApp account and select Next. Jess Reyes / Digital Trends Step 3: You'll be shown an eight-digit code to enter into WhatsApp on your phone. Jess Reyes / Digital Trends Step 4: Open WhatsApp on your smartphone, and select You > Linked devices on an iPhone or three-dot menu and Linked devices on an Android phone. Jesse Hollington / Digital Trends Step 5: Select Link a device. Jesse Hollington / Digital Trends Step 6: From the QR code screen, choose Link with phone number instead and enter the eight-digit code from WhatsApp Web when prompted. Jesse Hollington / Digital Trends Step 7: The WhatsApp page in your browser should refresh immediately and show your current list of chats. Digital Trends WhatsApp Web is as easy to use as the mobile app, and the interface will look familiar. Step 1: To send a message from your desktop, click on an existing chat or click on the New chat icon and select the contact you wish to interact with. Here, you can see previous chats, if they are saved, or alternately see the message bar at the bottom. Step 2: Click on the Type a message bar and start chatting. Step 3: When you're done with your message, click the Enter key on your keyboard to transmit — or just click on the Send icon. Step 4: If you want to include documents, images, or recordings, just attach the files from your desktop and send them as you would any other message by clicking on the paper clip Attach icon at the bottom of the current chat. Jesse Hollington / Digital Trends How to secure WhatsApp Web with a passwordOnce you've logged into WhatsApp Web, your browser will remain logged in and associated with your account until you explicitly log out. However, since logging out will require you to use your phone to sign back in, you should keep it as is unless your smartphone is available and online. Fortunately, you don't need to sign out to keep your private messages away from prying eyes. Instead, you can enable an App Lock feature in WhatsApp Web that will keep your browser signed in and linked to your account while requiring a password to unlock it. Step 1: In WhatsApp Web, select Settings with the gear icon above your profile picture in the lower left corner. Jess Reyes / Digital Trends Step 2: From the Settings menu, select Privacy, and then scroll down and select App lock (formerly Screen lock). Jess Reyes / Digital Trends Step 3: Select the check box beside App lock to enable this feature. Jess Reyes / Digital Trends Step 4: When prompted, enter and confirm the password you'd like to use to secure WhatsApp Web, and select OK. Jess Reyes / Digital Trends Step 5: Choose the period of inactivity that needs to elapse before WhatsApp automatically locks the screen. Once app lock is enabled, you can also lock the screen at any time by selecting Lock app from the main three-dot menu. App lock replaces the Log out option on this menu; you can still log out from the Settings menu if you need to log out of your WhatsApp Web session entirely. Note that an app lock password applies only to the current WhatsApp Web session in whatever browser you're using. It's not shared with other devices, and will need to be set up again if you log out and log back in later. WhatsApp Web featuresAfter scanning the QR code, you can view your WhatsApp chat list directly on the web page. On the left, you can see your chats by clicking a contact to open the chat and your message history, if you saved it. On the top-left of the web page, three icons are available: Status, New chat, and Menu, which offers a list of nested options. The Status option reveals all statuses posted by your contacts, along with the ability to respond from the reply area at the bottom of the pane. Clicking New chat opens the contacts list on the left side of the page. From here, you can create a new group or begin a conversation. The three-dot drop-down menu lets you create a new group, change information in your profile, search archived chats, view starred messages, change settings like notifications and chat wallpaper, or log out. Jesse has been a Mobile Writer for Digital Trends since 2021 and a technology enthusiast for his entire life — he was... By Victor Ashiedu Published July 29, 2019 WhatsApp web is a WhatsApp service that allows you to use WhatsApp from a browser on your computer. You do not need to install any software on your computer to use WhatsApp web. You can type faster using the keyboard on your computer. With WhatsApp web you can download media (video and images) directly to your computer. You can also share video and photos from your computer. You can use keyboard shortcuts. Follow the steps below to connect WhatsApp on your phone to WhatsApp Web on your computer. From your computer, open web.whatsapp.com (link opens in a new browser tab). The page below with the QR code will load. Open WhatsApp app on your phone. Then click the 3 dots on the top right of the App (highlighted in the previous image). Next, click WhatsApp Web. When you click WhatsApp Web, it will load a QR code scanner. Point the scanner on your phone to the WhatsApp QR code on your computer browser. WhatsApp on your computer will connect to WhatsApp on your phone! Below is a detailed list of the things you can do with WhatsApp web: Type and send messages using your keyboard. Download media files (photos and videos) directly to your PC. Read and respond to messages or start a new chat. Respond directly or forward a message. Start a new group. Participate in group chats. View the profile of your contacts. Share documents, media files and contacts. Send emojis, GIFs, stickers or recorded voice messages. Mute notifications. Select multiple messages to star, delete or forward. Delete or clear all chats for a particular contact. Search for messages. Click the new chat icon highlighted in the image below. The New chat window will load. You can do any of the following on the new chat window: Select a contact to chat with. Use the scroll button to scroll down to find more contacts. You can also use the search box to search for a contact you wish to chat with. Finally, you can create a group. Here is how: Click on the contact or group you wish to share files with. Then, click the file share icon (highlighted in the image above). File share options shown below will load. To share media files (videos or photos), click the icon labelled 1. Icon 2 will start the camera on your computer so you can take pictures and share them immediately. Use icon 3 to share documents (Excel, PDF, text, or Word). The last icon, labelled 4 is used to share contacts. Follow the steps below to reply a message directly, delete a message, forward or star a message. Hover over the message to highlight a drop-down arrow. Click on the arrow to display actions you can take on the chat. You can reply directly to the message by clicking Reply. Back to the chat options, to forward, delete or star a message, click the relevant button. Follow the steps below: As usual, the first step to click on the chat or group. Then, click the 3 dots on top of WhatsApp Web. The options shown in the second image will be displayed. This section will demo how to send Emojis, GIFs and recorded messages with WhatsApp Web. Here are the steps: Click on the chat or group. To send Emojis, GIFs or stickers, click the icon on the left. Going back to the previous image, to record and send a voice message, click the icon on the right. If it is the first time you want to record voice message using WhatsApp Web, the app will request access to your microphone. A message similar to the image below will pop up. Check the box Remember this decision. Then click Allow. WhatsApp will start recording immediately. Start speaking. To cancel your message, click the icon labelled 2 below. When you finish recording, click icon labelled 1. When you click this icon, WhatsApp will send your recorded voice message immediately. If you may wish to disconnect your WhatsApp from the computer, here are the steps: Open WhatsApp on your phone. Next, click the 3 dots on top right of the App (highlighted in the previous image). Next, click WhatsApp Web. All devices you are currently connected to via Web or PC App will be listed here. To log out from all devices, click Log out from all devices. WhatsApp Web is a very great tool that allows you connect and use WhatsApp from a browser. As I said at the beginning of this guide, you do not need to install any application on your computer to do this. If like me you use WhatsApp to communicate with your team you will find this feature very useful. You can chat with your team right from your computer while getting on with other tasks. I hope this guide made life easier for you. If you have any questions or comments, use the "Leave a Reply" form at the end of this page. Better still, respond to the "Was this page helpful?" question below. Was this page helpful? Yes (14)/No (3) Victor Ashiedu We're committed to writing accurate content that informs and educates. To learn more, read our Content Writing Policy, Content Review Policy, Anti-plagiarism Policy, and About Us. However, if this content does not meet your expectations, kindly reach out to us through one of the following means: Respond to "Was this page helpful?" above. Leave a comment with the "Leave a Comment" form below. Email us at [email protected] or via the Contact Us page.

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- zagjawa
- can you ask for permission