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## Acapella video app

The best video chat apps are more valuable than ever in this day and age, because we are all cut off from personally connecting with our friends and family. The good news is that enough software is designed to keep people together, whether they prefer the desktop or mobile experience. The better news is that a lot is free. We have a list of the best video chat apps you download now, whether you prefer to use a desktop chat, an iPhone or Android device, or while you're gaming on your PC. You may already have a piece of it, but you didn't know that everything it could be used for. Whether you're looking for something suitable for a professional environment, such as working from home, or just want to chat with a friend, these are your best options. Read on for our highlights of the best video chat apps on a wide range of platforms. And if you're against spending money, fear not: every piece of software in this list has at least a free layer - and most of them are completely free, period. What are the best video chat apps? The best video chat app in general - and one that's especially popular now - is Zoom Meeting, which can be used on both desktop and mobile. Zoom comes in free and paid layers. The free option supports calls from up to 100 participants, although sessions with three or more people on the line are limited to 40 minutes and can even run in a desktop browser window if you don't want to download the app to your machine. Skype is a good alternative to Zoom. It's a little easier to use, but also works on different platforms and costs nothing in the beginning. It even allows you to call landline and mobile numbers at reasonable rates, supports texting and can perform real-time translation, too. Google Duo is an app that comes pre-installed on the vast majority of Android phones these days, and has essentially become Google's answer to Apple's FaceTime on iPhones. It's easy to use, like FaceTime, and provides a quick shortcut to calling Google Home devices built-in. Facebook also offers two solutions: Facebook Messenger and WhatsApp. The video calling features of both apps saw a bump from 8 to 50 participants last spring. Finally, we recommend Discord for gamers, which includes robust apps on mobile and desktop. In fact, Discord is built to stream games to small groups of people, and the company recently raised the limit on its Go Live free streaming service from 10 to 50 people. Here's a look at all of the best video chat apps. The best video chat apps you download today (Image credit: Zoom) Works with: iOS, Android, Windows, Mac, Web | Maximum free users: Time limit for 3 or more Good for friends and colleagues Beams understanding feature set Works on all platforms Free layer imposes limits for 3 or more of the best video chat apps that many people turn to nowadays is Zoom, and not for nothing. Zoom is popular among professional teams, but it is also becoming more common for simple video chats video chats of the comprehensive feature set and support across all platforms - both as a local and web app on desktops, as well as as a downloadable app on smartphones. Screen sharing, live annotations and encryption all come standard with Zoom, whether you're using the free version of the app or deciding to pay. If you're just video chatting with another friend, the free app doesn't lock anything away from you. However, that changes when you decide to invite three or more people to your meeting, at which point you have a 40-minute time limit. A Pro tier of \$15 per month lifts that limit, allowing you to have up to 100 people on the same call, while the business tier raises that limit even higher for business customers. It must be said that a number of Zoom security flaws have been discovered since the app came into the spotlight during the early days of the pandemic. However, Zoom tackles it, and we still recommend using it for the vast majority of people, as long as you protect each meeting with a password. April's Zoom 5.0 update ensured that the app now meets the AES 256-bit GCM encryption standard and enforces passwords by default for professional and educator licensees. More recently the company activated end-to-end encryption to keep your conversations safer, and all of that should go a long way toward curbing Zoom bombing. (Image Credit: Skype) Works with: iOS, Android, Windows, Mac, Web, Xbox | Maximum free users: 50 Today's best Noproduct deals Max 50 people allowed on video call Supports international call and text Available on all platforms Business tier costs money Skype has long been a name on the list of best video chat apps. Microsoft's offer has an impressive limit of 50 people, and it won't cost you anything. Like Zoom, Skype also has a browser client and is available on virtually any modern computer device and smartphone. It is also great to connect with people who are not devices of their own, and perhaps are limited to landlines or a basic cell phone. Because Skype supports international calling and texting, it's a comprehensive solution for friends and family countries away. If you have specific needs, such as screen sharing on mobile devices or live transcription and translation, Skype also covers these bases. The paid version of the business app has been recast as Microsoft Teams, but you don't need to use it if you only use it to chat with friends. (Image credit: Google) Works with: iOS, Android, Windows and Mac via web | Maximum free users: 32 Preinstalled on most new Android phones Easy and fun to use Volle free 32 person limit is smaller than most For the longest time, Android lacked its own answer to FaceTime on iPhone and iPad - a built-in video chatting app that users can turn right on their device without looking for anything in the Play Store (and ask their friends to download it, too). Fortunately, Google finally addressed that problem with Duo - video chat chat that is remarkably easy to use and actually accessible within the standard Phone app on many Android phones. Duo also supports a range of fun features and allows you to record and send video messages so you can connect with friends and family even when they're not available at the same time. Duo is also available on iOS, so you're iPhone-toting friends have no right to be ashamed of not owning an Apple device. It even has the same limit of 32 people as Facetime these days. A recent report claimed Google is planning to fold Duo into Meet, which was initially more intended for business users - but it's unclear when this might come to pass. (Image credit: Discord) Works with: iOS, Android, Windows, Mac, Web | Maximum free users: 10 on video call; 50 while streaming Great for gaming Robust PC and mobile apps Lacks more work-friendly features Gamers already know Discord as a great source to connect to their friends via text, but did you know that Discord also supports video chat? In addition, because it allows for streaming in the app itself, it's a great way to play some games with friends, by streaming a user's screen content to the rest of the group. In fact, the Tom's Guide staff did just that several times during quarantine, with one user sharing Quiplash from their PC's display to the rest of us playing along over the phone. Fortunately, Discord has even gone so far as to temporarily increase its built-in Go Live streaming service from up to 10 people to 50 people. If you upgrade to Nitro, which costs \$10 per month, you increase the streaming quality to 1080p/60fps, a maximum of 720p/30 fps for the free tier. (Image credit: Vincenzo Pinto/Getty Images) Works with: iOS, Mac | Maximum free users: 32 Today's best Noproduct deals Supports up to 32 people on a video call Built into every iPhone, iPad and Mac FaceTime Audio makes voice calls easy, also Only accessible on Apple devices It's no surprise that FaceTime should appear in this list of the best video chat apps. Apple's software wasn't the first in video chatting, but it was the one that started it all for mobile users, and led the industry toward making video chat easier and more accessible. Today, FaceTime is pre-installed on all Apple hardware and supports some really fun and useful features, from cute Animojis, Memojiis and stickers to allowing up to 32 people on a single call. And because FaceTime also has a voice call component - FaceTime Audio - you can easily route conversations through data or Wi-Fi whenever you want, where your calls sound infinitely better than through your mobile operator's voice network. The only downside to is of course that it is exclusive to Apple hardware. But among all the people who own iPhones, iPads and Macs today, it shouldn't be hard to find someone with facetime. (Image credit: Facebook) Works with: iOS, Android, Windows and Mac via web | Maximum free users: 50 Of day best Noproduct Noproduct on web and phone Max 50 people allowed on video call Lacks more work-friendly features The beauty of using Facebook Messenger for video chat is that you are probably already signed up to use it. As long as you have a Facebook account and the Facebook Messenger app on your phone (or are signed in to the Facebook Messenger web app on your computer), you can now start video chatting with your Facebook friends. Even if you had a Facebook account in one go and deactivated it ever since, you can still use Messenger. Tap the video camera icon in the upper-right corner of the screen and start a conversation with a person or chat group. And like Skype, up to 50 people can be present on a Facebook Messenger video call at the same time - a good face larger than the up to 32 video chats supported by Apple's FaceTime and Google Duo support. Plus, even when you're video chatting, you can still use the myriad other features of Facebook Messenger, such as sending instant messages, stickers, and so on. (Image credit: WhatsApp) Works with: iOS, Android | Maximum free users: 50 End-to-end encrypted 50-person group calls Video calls limited to mobile WhatsApp is now one of the most popular messaging alternatives on smartphones, both because it's a breeze to get involved with just a phone number and because many of your friends and family are probably already using it (or at least have an account). Until recently, WhatsApp's video calling feature wasn't the most robust there was. But that changed when the maximum participant limit was raised to 50, thanks to an integration with Facebook Messenger's new Rooms feature. The only downside to WhatsApp's video suite is that although WhatsApp offers desktop and web apps, video chat is limited to mobile app users. WhatsApp video calls are at least end-to-end encrypted, as are instant messages. In other words, you never have to worry about your calls being intercepted by nefarious intruders. How to choose the best video chat app for you That all the best video chat apps are free, don't be afraid to try them all out if you want. There is absolutely no risk involved. But if you want to know where to start, the best advice is to take stock of what you need this app for. If you only want to chat on your phone, The Duo, FaceTime and Facebook Messenger will suffice. However, if you and your friends use a number of devices to connect - phones, tablets, computers, and so on - or if your need is more professional or collaborative, we recommend leaning towards Zoom, Skype, or Discord. These apps are available on any platform, and although some of them offer paid tiers, you probably won't need to use them if your head count is small or the length of time you plan to chat is relatively short. The free versions are feature-rich to begin with. Eventually you'll probably end up on which video chat app your friends and family already prefer to use - that's the way these things tend to go. But if looking for a replacement, one of the options in this list will hopefully suffice. Suffice.

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