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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 Web Setting 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 device. 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 Web WhatsApp 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 loses 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 Web Currently, 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 Web If 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. **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 WhatsApp web. Using WhatsApp from your computer has some benefits. Here are some of the benefits of using WhatsApp via a browser: Unlike using WhatsApp PC App, to use WhatsApp web you do not need to install any software on your computer. 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. Go 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" form below. Email us at or via the Contact Us page. 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 Authority WhatsApp 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 Authority The 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. **Download Article** A user-friendly guide to set up and use WhatsApp on your computer. **Download Article** Do you want to use WhatsApp on your computer? You can easily access your WhatsApp messages on a computer by using WhatsApp Web or the desktop app. You'll just need to connect your account by scanning a QR code with your phone. All messages will be synced, so you can seamlessly continue conversations from your mobile device on your computer. This wikiHow will show you how to open and use WhatsApp on your Windows, Mac, or Linux computer. Go to WhatsApp's website or download a desktop version of the program. Open the WhatsApp mobile application, and go to "Settings" — "Linked Devices" — "Link a Device". Scan the QR code on your computer screen. 1 Navigate to access WhatsApp on the web. You'll be able to use WhatsApp in any web browser on your desktop or laptop computer, including Safari, Chrome, and Edge.[1] You'll see instructions along with a QR code. This code needs to be scanned by the WhatsApp mobile app to link your devices.[2] If preferred, you can download the desktop client and launch the app. You'll only be able to use either WhatsApp Web or the desktop client at a time; if you launch another version, any active session will end and transfer to the new one. 2 Open WhatsApp on your mobile device. This looks like a white phone with a green background. WhatsApp is available for iOS in the App Store and for Android in the Google Play Store. You cannot sign up for WhatsApp for the first time using a computer; you must create an account using a mobile device. Advertisement 3 Tap Settings. This is at the bottom-right corner, next to a cog icon.[3] 4 Tap Linked Devices. You'll find this underneath Starred Messages.[4] 5 Tap Link a Device. You may need to provide your device's passcode to proceed. Your camera will open on a new page.[5] Tap OK to clear any instructions from the screen. 6 Scan your QR code. Point your camera at the code on your computer screen.[6] If your browser isn't scanning the code, close the WhatsApp app and open it again. When the QR code has been read, you will be logged into WhatsApp on your computer. Advertisement 1 View the WhatsApp Web or desktop interface. The interface is split into two panels. The left panel contains all your messages or chats, much like your inbox, and the right panel is where you can find your current chat room. 2 Click a message to read. The list of your messages can be found in the left panel. Scroll through them, and click the one you'd like to read. 3 Read message. The selected conversation will be displayed on the right panel via a chat window. You can scroll through the exchanges to read the past messages or restore chat history to retrieve old messages. To manage your chats, find the chat in the left panel. Click the down arrow icon and select Archive chat, Mute, Delete, or Mark as unread.[7] Advertisement 1 Select a contact. Type the name of the contact you want to talk to in the search field. The search field is found on the top of the left panel. From the results, click on the name. You can also continue a conversation from one of your existing messages. Just select a message to continue chatting on as described in the Reading Messages section. 2 View the chat window. The chat window will appear in the right panel. The name or names of the people you're talking to are displayed on the header bar. 3 Send a message. The message box is located on the bottom of the right panel. Type your message here, then press Enter to send your message. You can also click the paper airplane icon to send your message.[8] You'll see your message displayed in the chat log. To send a picture, click the clip icon to the left of the chat field. Click the purple Photos & Videos icon to browse your computer. You can also send a Poll, Contact, Document, Sticker, or use your camera. If you want to send a voice message, click the microphone icon to the right of the text field. You must have a connected microphone to do so. 4 Read messages. All messages exchanged during the conversation will be displayed in the chat log. Each message is tagged with the sender's name and timestamp. You can read through them as they appear. 5 Delete a chat (optional). If you don't want to save your current conversation, you can delete it. While still on the chat window, click the button with three vertical dots in the top-right corner. In the pop-up menu, click Delete chat. You can also select Clear messages if you want to keep the conversation in your activity, but clear any messages from the chat log. Advertisement 1 Click : This will be in the left panel, next to New chat. A drop-down menu will open. 2 Click Log out. This will log you out of WhatsApp Web or the desktop client.[9] Alternatively, you can log out of WhatsApp using your mobile device. To do this, open the WhatsApp app. Click Settings — Linked Devices — select your session. Click Log Out — Log Out. You can resume using WhatsApp on your mobile device. Advertisement Add New Question Question Can two different contact numbers on WhatsApp be paired with a laptop? Yes, you can pair two different WhatsApp numbers with the same laptop. You can open one of them in the current window while the other either needs to be open in Incognito/Private mode or a different browser. Question Can we do a video call or an audio call on WhatsApp Web? No, WhatsApp doesn't support audio or video calls on its web version currently. Question How do I add a new contact in web WhatsApp? The official WhatsApp Web version doesn't support adding a new contact. But you can use some tricks with a third-party extension InTouchApp to add new contacts. Ask a Question Advertisement Reviewed by: Computer & Tech Specialist This article was reviewed by Luigi Oppido and by wikiHow staff writer, Rain Kenly. Luigi Oppido is the Owner and Operator of Pleasure Point Computers in Santa Cruz, California. Luigi has over 25 years of experience in general computer repair, data recovery, virus removal, and upgrades. He is also the host of the Computer Man Show! broadcasted on KSQD covering central California for over two years. This article has been viewed 754,930 times. Co-authors: 10 Updated: December 25, 2024 Views: 754,930 Categories: WhatsApp Print Send fan mail to authors Thanks to all authors for creating a page that has been read 754,930 times. 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.