

Table Of Contents

Table Of Contents	1
-------------------------	---

[Home](#) > [Faq](#) > [FAQ](#)

How do I use MSN or Yahoo or ICQ instant messaging under Linux?

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Q. I have lots friends most of them use MSN, ICO or Yahoo for chatting purpose. So how do I chat using Linux?

A. You need to use Gaim messenger. It is an instant messenger that supports many commonly used instant messaging systems including:

1. Yahoo
2. MSN
3. ICQ
4. Jabber
5. Internet Relay Chat and others (see [complete list](#) ^[1])

Gaim supports plugins for RSA and GPG encryption, as well as Off-the-record messaging.

Gaim installation

By default most modern Linux distributions install the Gaim. You can find it Internet menu.

If you are using Debian Linux, type the following command:

```
# apt-get install gaim
```

If you are using Fedora Linux, type the following command:

```
# yum install gaim
```

If you are using Red Hat enterprise, type the following command:

```
# up2date gaim
```

To start gaim, the following command (or click on K icon > Internet > Gaim >):

```
$ gaim &
```

See also:

- [Gaim documentation](#)

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[1] complete list: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaim>