

Feature Proposal for Microsoft OneNote

Feature Name: Inline Video Insertion in Notes

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1. Overview / Abstract

OneNote currently lacks a native option to insert playable videos directly into notes. Users must attach video files manually, which creates unnecessary steps for playback. This feature proposes an inline video embed option, allowing users to insert videos (screen recordings, lectures, etc.) directly into a note page, similar to how images are added. This would significantly enhance productivity, especially for students and professionals.

2. Problem Statement

Right now, if a user wants to include a short video from a lecture or screen recording:

- They must use the attachment option
- Click on it to open the gallery every time
- It takes them away from OneNote
- There's no preview, thumbnail, or inline video playback

For students taking notes from JEE/NEET lectures or online classes, this becomes a major friction point.

3. The Proposed Idea

Add an Insert Video option next to the current 'Insert Image' or 'Attachment' buttons.

- This lets the user embed the video directly into the note not just attach it
- The video appears visually as a thumbnail or small player
- Tapping it should play the video inline or in a floating popup without leaving OneNote

Ideal for:

- Screen-recorded clips of a specific concept
- Small class highlights

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- Even verbal quick reminders from the user

4. Use Case / Example

Lets say Im watching a JEE lecture on Electrostatics.

- I take notes like: $EdA = q/0$ this is where the teacher explains Gauss's Law with animation
- I pause the lecture and screen-record 20 seconds of that part
- I want to insert that video right next to the formula
- I should be able to tap and play the clip right there without leaving the app

Right now, I have to:

- Insert it as an attachment
- Open it through a file viewer
- Get disturbed from the flow of note-taking

5. Why This Feature Matters

It creates a blended learning experience combining video + handwriting + typing

Helps students who need visual explanations, especially in subjects like Physics & Chemistry

Makes OneNote more competitive vs. Notion, Evernote, and others

A feature like this would likely be copied across all other note apps, giving OneNote a first-mover advantage

6. Visual Mock-up (Optional)

This document includes a screenshot of the current attachment-based system. A suggested visual layout of the proposed inline video can be created using Canva/Figma.

7. Future Possibilities

- Add support for cloud video links (like Google Drive or YouTube)
- Allow tagging or timeline bookmarks on videos
- Let users record short clips inside OneNote itself

8. Signature / Credit

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GitHub Repo: <https://github.com/NISHANT724/onenote-video-insertion-feature>