

AAC Implementation for sharing memes in chat

Because finding the *right* image to convey appropriate sarcasm can sometimes take too long.

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Imagine, if you will, participating in a group chat with friends...

Friend 1: I'm thinking of submitting my design fiction to a design contest, but I don't know...

Friend 2: You should go for it!

Friend 3: Yeah, sounds great!

Friend 4: !doit

Friend 4 is using a bot command to call up a gif, like this image shows.

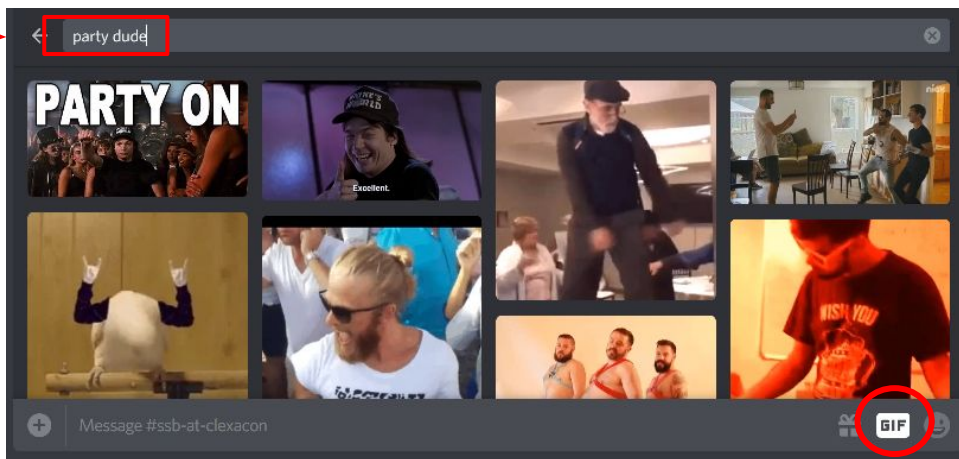


Friend 4 just used a bot command! A shortcut for calling up a gif

Typical gif use involves searching for a gif (either manually or on an installed gif app like giphy). This can be cumbersome for someone relying on AAC, closing off their access to an important part of text-based communication.

User types text to search tagged gifs from online dataset

Selecting gif involves tabbing through & pressing enter or scrolling and clicking on image.



Button for activating gif search screen

Typing in bot commands is quicker than typing a typical sentence. Or searching via gif plug-ins.

People with mobility restrictions might still struggle. A switching program that has access to queued up gif responses, however, can massively cut down on time. For example--say some friends have a group chat. They curate a list of shortcuts to commonly used gifs that tie into inside jokes and in-group communication. An AAC plugin that gave someone quick access to those gif commands would help that person quickly participate in an important part of modern text communication. With the prevalence of bot commands that already make gif-summoning short-cuts, this idea is not too far removed from something that would be genuinely useful. Curated by a group of friends, the gifs will always be more relevant than what a gif app will summon with searchable tags.

A sample sketch of how this 2-switch system might work...

Switch 1 = Scan | Switch 2 = Select

GIFs

From the navigation menu, select the “Gif” icon to open curated gif shortcuts

!Dolt



!WorkSmarter



!Both



This sort of system can also support images and YouTube videos. The possibilities are endless!