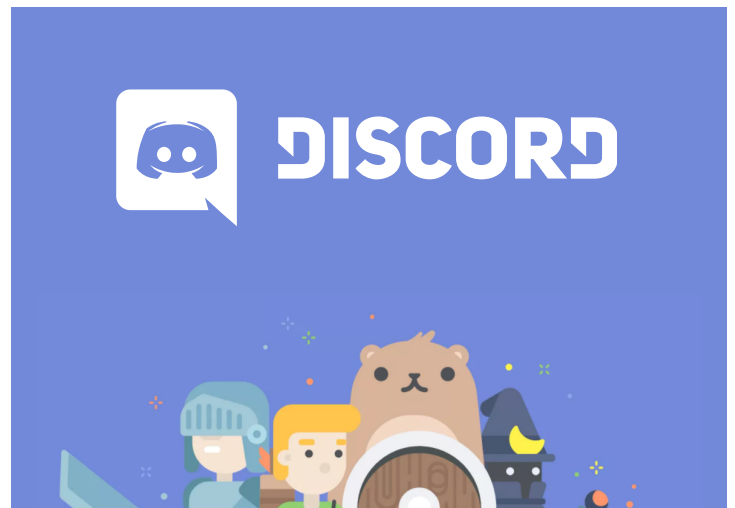


Discord: A Safe Space for LGBTQIA+



Seeking solace and community after witnessing the police shoot and kill their only other non-binary friend, Discord user August created the Spectrum server for the queer community. Now, the official partnered server of r/LGBT, Spectrum is a queer-only server aimed at providing a community for queer people to meet others like them, as well as a place for young, questioning users to discover their own identities. Spectrum has identity-specific channels for communication based on specific gender, sexual and romantic identities, in addition to other topics.

Discord became the place for August to provide young, queer and questioning people a place to fully be themselves without having to explain their identities or justify their feelings. "In a world where young people are often dissuaded against exploring their gender identities and orientation, providing a 100 percent safe space to encourage that type of self-exploration is quite unique," says August. The server began as a place for August to find solidarity and their own community while living in a new city. Three years later, they have found their people and their place: "We're 7,000 users strong and still growing. We've had users get married, have kids, meet their best friends, and just truly become who they were meant to be in Spectrum."



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August, Spectrum server founder

Discord is uniquely positioned to provide a space that allows that level of vulnerability, moderated to be respectful and organized to optimize engagement.