# **Discord Fact Sheet**

**What is Discord?**

Discord is a new way for people to talk with their communities and friends, used by hundreds of millions of people to talk regularly and enjoy genuine conversations. Discord gives people an invite-only space for their communities and friends, where they can hop between voice, video, and text, depending on how they want to talk, letting them have conversations in a very natural or authentic way. Discord is home for communities of any size but is most widely used by small and active groups who talk regularly.

**Discord At a Glance**

* Headquartered in San Francisco, CA
* 250 employees globally
* More than 100 million monthly active users
* Every day people spend 4bn minutes in conversation on Discord servers, across 6.7 million active communities. On a weekly basis, that’s 26bn server conversation minutes across 13.5 million active servers
* 76% of users are outside North America
* Co-Founders: Jason Citron, CEO and Stanislav Vishnevskiy, Chief Technology Officer
* Leading investors: Benchmark, Accel, Greylock Partners, and Index Ventures.

**Discord Origin Story: from games to the world**

* Discord was created in 2015 by Jason Citron, CEO & Co-Founder, and Stan Vishnevskiy, CTO & Co-Founder, inspired by their own need for a home on the internet where they could be themselves while playing games and spending time with friends.
* Since the beginning, people used Discord servers to talk while playing games but began to use it for other purposes including spending time with friends in programming clubs, keeping up with college friends who are far away, and with other communities that have shared interests.
* Today, there are millions of unique communities that use Discord for positive and meaningful interactions: school clubs, gaming groups, worldwide art communities, or just handfuls of friends that want to spend time together.

**Who uses Discord**

Discord is for people who want a place to talk regularly with their communities and friends. They come to Discord for a reliable experience that covers all the ways they like to communicate - voice, video, and text. They also truly value the organization of Discord, making it easy to have multiple aspects of their lives all inside one product.

People use Discord to talk about everything from live karaoke nights to screen share group painting, to virtual wedding parties. Here are just a few examples of the kind of communities on Discord - you can see a full collection of use cases [right here](https://discord.com/why-discord):

* Boy scouts: Across the US, boy scouts have been gathering on Discord to hold remote troop meetings during the pandemic.
* Book clubs: Groups across the country, including the public library in Princeton, New Jersey, are turning to Discord to host book clubs.
* Comedy clubs: Aspiring and professional standup comedians are hosting open mic nights on Discord.
* Education: With schooling remote for many students with social distancing policies in place, many teachers are taking to Discord to teach their lessons.
* Music: One Discord server has 450 trombone enthusiasts who use voice chat to make music together.
* Language learning: Discord has tons of servers devoted to learning new languages.
* Environmental organizing: Fans of the band “Cold Weather Company” organized a global trash clean-up day.
* Mental health: Nonprofits are offering mental health services like talk therapy on Discord.
* College esports: College esports clubs are creating servers on Discord. Iowa State University’s esports club has a Discord server with over 1,000 members.

**How Discord works**

1. **Invite your friends to a server:** A server is an invite-only place where all of your friends can talk, collaborate, and share with each other - either over voice, video, or text. Conversations on servers are only with people you choose to talk to and about the topics you want to discuss.
2. **Organize your server with channels:** Within that server, you can create different channels for different topics, so you can collaborate, share, or just talk about your day without clogging up a group chat.
3. **Hop over to voice and video:** Voice and video channels allow you to express yourself even more. Your community and friends can see when you’re hanging out in a channel, allowing them to hop into the conversation whenever they want!
4. **Customize your server:** Make your community your ownwith moderation tools and custom member access. Give members special powers, set up private channels, and more. For a full list of roles and permissions - see [here](https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us/articles/214836687-Role-Management-101).
5. **Upgrade your Discord server with Nitro:** [Nitro](https://discord.com/nitro) provides Discord users and their servers with an enhanced experience, such as allowing users to customize their profiles with unique tags, have access to animated emojis, upload larger files, and “boost” their favorite servers. Nitro is a tiered subscription product that can be purchased on a monthly or yearly basis - full details [here](https://discord.com/nitro).