

Dear reader,

Thank you for taking a look at my portfolio. It includes a short explainer, a tutorial, a how-to guide, and a UI reference.

These samples focus on my ability to think through new technical topics and break them down into clear and concise language. I never used Twitch Studio before I chose it as the subject for this piece, so what you see here is the result of my learning process with a new software tool. I believe the result is something new users would find valuable, as this was written from the perspective of a fellow curious beginner.

If you enjoy reading these samples, I'd love to hear from you and see if I can put my writing to work for your company!

With regards,

Matt Douston

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Brief Explainer: Introduction to Twitch Studio

Twitch Studio is a desktop app that makes streaming to Twitch.tv easy to do. You don't need to be an expert in screen capture software or audio mixing to get going. With a few selections during first time set up, you can start streaming in minutes.

Who is Twitch Studio for?

If you don't want to spend hours learning the ins and outs of a streaming application before you can start streaming, Twitch Studio is for you. Many streaming programs are complicated and meticulous to set up. Twitch Studio, on the other hand, offers fast first-time configuration and a set of easy-to-customize visuals that allows beginners to start streaming right away.

Why should you use Twitch Studio?

- You want to start streaming as quickly and painlessly as possible.
- You want access to the largest streaming audience on the internet.
- You want to create a community around something you love.
- You don't want to spend a lot of time on audio mixing or compatibility issues.
- You don't already use another streaming application.

Tutorial: Set Up Your Twitch Studio

In this tutorial, you'll learn how to:

- Create a Twitch account.
- Download and install Twitch Studio Beta.
- Perform first-time set up.
- Begin a stream.

Create an account

You'll need a Twitch account to use Twitch Studio. You can make one during installation but doing this now will save you from interrupting the setup process later.

1. Go to [twitch.tv](https://www.twitch.tv).
2. In the upper-right, click **Sign Up**.
3. Fill out the form, choosing a PG username and a memorable password—be sure to write the password down somewhere safe.
4. Click **Sign Up** at the bottom to finish creating your Twitch account.

Download and install

1. Go to <https://www.twitch.tv/downloads>.
2. Below the Twitch Studio Beta icon, click **Download**.
3. On the left side of this page, click **Download Now**.
4. Choose a folder to save it in, then click **Save**.
5. When it's downloaded, double click the file to install it.

The next step differs depending on your operating system.

On a Mac, the installer will open a window with the Twitch Studio app file on the left.

1. Click and drag it into the **Applications** folder to the right.
2. When it's done copying, close the window.
3. Start the **Twitch Studio** app.
4. From here, follow the First Time Setup steps below.

On Windows, the installer will begin an installation wizard.

1. Click **Install**, then click **Yes** to allow changes to your computer.
2. From here, follow the First Time Setup steps below.

First time setup

1. Log in with the account you created earlier.
2. Check your email for a message from Twitch containing a 6-digit number.
3. Enter that number in the Twitch Studio window and click **Continue**.
4. Click **Get Started**.
5. Click **Grant** next to **Microphone** and **Webcam**.
6. Click **Install** next to **System Audio**—this button is different because a plugin needs to be set up to access your system audio.
 - a. **On a mac**, a **System Extension Blocked** pop up will appear. This will bring you to **Security Preferences**. Click the **lock icon** in the lower-left corner to allow changes. Then click **Allow** at the bottom of the window. You will need to restart your computer to complete the plugin installation.
7. Click **Next**.
8. Choose which microphone to use:
 - If you have no microphones connected there won't be any to select, but this won't prevent you from continuing the install.
 - For more information on microphone options and how to set them up in Twitch Studio, see the Twitch Studio Audio Overview.
9. Click **Continue to Scenes**.
10. Click **Continue to Settings** (there's nothing to do or set up here).
11. Stick with what Twitch Studio chooses for streaming quality—720p60 is a common default—and click **Continue to App**.
12. Wait a moment for the full Twitch Studio to appear with the default Gameplay scene active.
13. At the bottom, click **Start Stream** to begin your first stream!

How-To Guide: Setup your livestream with Twitch Studio

This guide goes over how to customize layers in scenes so you can set up your stream exactly how you want.

Twitch Studio uses **scenes** and **layers** to organize what you're streaming. A scene is a collection of layers. A layer is a piece of content. Layers are rendered on top of each other in the order they're listed in the Layers View. Layers higher in the list render over ones lower in the list.

There's a set number of layer types, each with their own purpose and editable attributes. This guide discusses how to manage scenes and layers.

Manage scenes

To add a scene:

1. In the Scenes Layout, go to **Add Scene**.
2. Choose a template from the list and select **Add**.

You can import a scene template if you have an overlay file on your computer.

To delete a scene:

In the Scenes layout right, choose the scene you wish to delete, then select **Delete**.

To reorder scenes:

In the Scenes layout, select and hold a scene and drag it up or down in the list.

Manage layers

Layers are managed in the Scene Edit view while editing a scene.

To add a layer:

1. Select **Add Layer**.
2. Choose a layer type and select **Add**.

There's a set number of layer types. You cannot create a custom layer type.

To delete a layer:

In the layers list, right-click a layer and select **Delete**.

To change layer rendering order:

1. In the layers list, select and drag a layer up or down.
2. Layers at the top render on top of layers at the bottom.

Customize layers: common attributes

*Layer changes are saved by selecting **Save** at the bottom of the Scene Edit view.*

To move a layer:

1. From the layers list, choose a layer.
2. A white rectangle will appear on the canvas. Select and drag it around on the canvas.
3. For precise placement, enter values in the X and Y fields in the Size and Position pane.
4. Select **Save** at the bottom of the Scene Edit view.

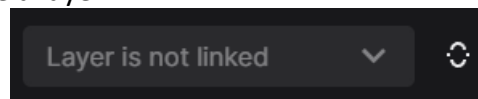
To resize a layer:

1. From the layers list, choose a layer. A white rectangle will appear on the canvas.
2. Select and drag one of the white squares at the corners to resize the layer.
3. For precise sizing, enter values in the W and H fields in the Size and Position pane.
4. Select **Save** at the bottom of the Scene Edit view.

Say you want your Webcam layer to be in the bottom-left in each scene with the same size and border. You can customize the Webcam layer in one scene, make it a linked layer, and then it will look the same in all scenes you include it in.

To make a linked layer:

1. Choose a layer.



2. In the Linked Layer pane on the right, select the circular icon next to the dropdown.
3. In the pop up, select **Got It**.
4. Your layer is now linked. The Link Layer icon will now look like this:

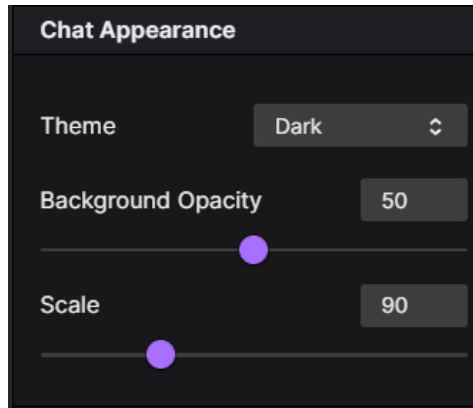


5. Select **Save** at the bottom of the Scene Edit view.

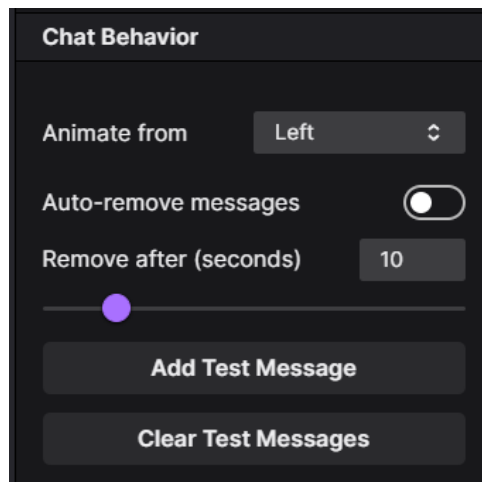
Customize layers: unique attributes of layer types

Webchat layer

To change how the chat looks, see the Chat Appearance pane.



To change how the chat behaves, see the Chat Behavior pane.



To add test messages to see what these settings look like:

- Below the Chat Behavior pane, select **Add Test Message**.

Webcam layer

To choose a web cam device:

1. In the Device pane on the right, select **Change**.
2. From the dropdown at the top, choose a device, then select **Done**.
3. Make sure your web cam cover is open!
4. Select **Save** at the bottom of the Scene Edit view.

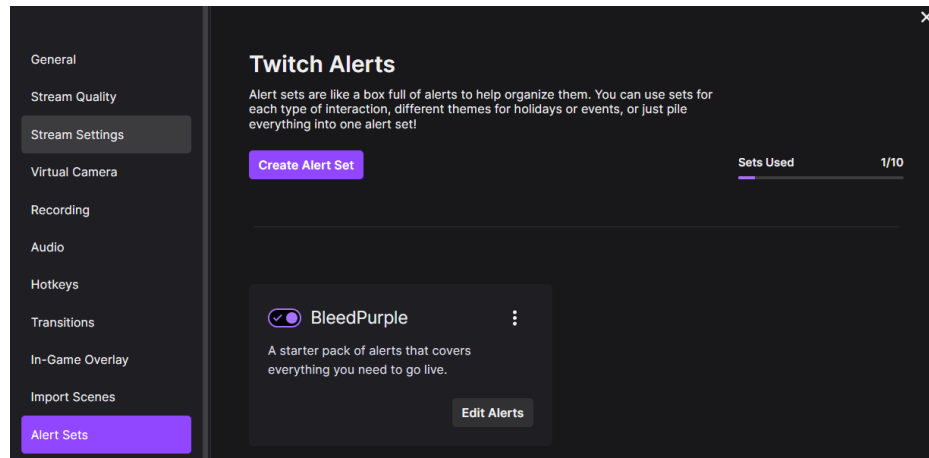
One of the options is Twitch Virtual Cam. This will copy the entire stream canvas and render it as if it were webcam output. This is often used to do screen captures without needing a separate screen capture device or program.

Alert layer

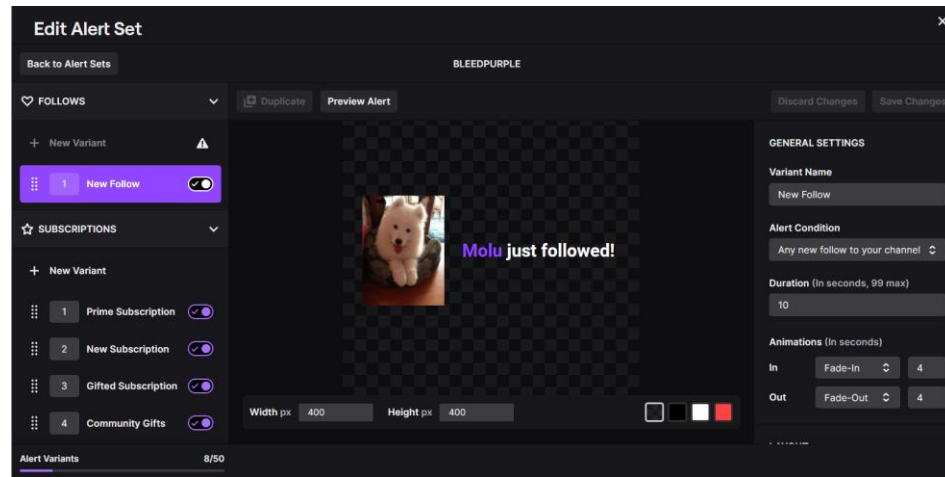
Alerts are organized into Alert Sets. Each set is a different collection of alerts with their own configurations. They're useful if you want uniquely customized sets of alerts for different occasions.

To change an alert image:

1. Select the Alerts layer.
2. In the Edit Alerts pane, select **Edit Alert Sets**.
 - a. This will take you out of the Scene Edit view and into Twitch Settings.



3. Select **Edit Alerts** for the Alert Set that contains the alert you want to edit.



- a. This will take you out of the Scene Edit view and into the Edit Alert Set view.
4. From the list on the left, choose an alert.
 5. In the Alert Image pane on the right, select **Upload File**.
 - You may have to scroll down in this pane to see this section.
 6. Choose an image or animated gif on your computer, then select **Open**.
 - The supported formats are gif, png, jpeg, and webm.
 - Minimum file size is 200kb. Max file size is 45mb.
 7. In the top right, select **Save Changes**.
 8. In the upper-left, select **Back to Alert Sets** to return to the settings page.
 9. In the top right, select the **X** to return to the Scene Edit view.

To change alert behaviors, see the following settings panes:

See the Animations pane to change how alerts come and go.

See the Layout pane to change how an alert's image and text are arranged.

See the Alert Text pane to change an alert's message and font.

See the Alert Sound pane to add sound effects to an alert.

To create an Alert Set:

1. Select the Alerts layer
2. In the Edit Alerts pane, select **Edit Alert Sets**.
3. At the top, select **Create Alert Set**.
4. Give it a name and an optional description, then select **Create**.

Wallpaper layer

To change the background image:

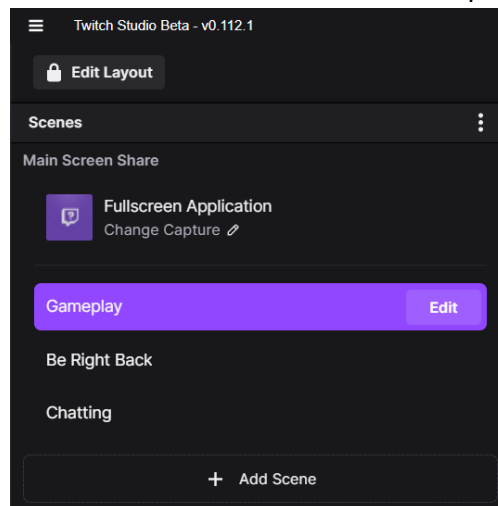
1. In the Image File pane, select **Change**.
2. Select **Browse** and select an image from your computer.
3. Select **Select**.

Game capture layer

You can only edit general attributes of the Game Capture layer. To select what it's capturing, exit the scene edit view and return to Twitch Studio's main section.

To choose what to capture:

1. Ensure what you want to capture is running on your computer.
2. Under the Main Screen Share section of the Scenes pane, select **Change Capture**.



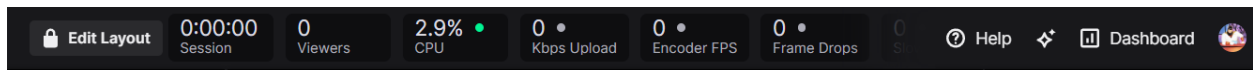
3. Choose a running program listed in the Window section.
4. Select **Done**.

You can capture any running program or window on your computer.

Reference Doc: Twitch Studio UI Overview

This reference outlines the main UI's buttons and elements, organized by panel.

Top Row



Edit Layout

Selecting this will "unlock" the lock icon and enable edit mode:

- Panels are movable and resizable.
- Vertical ellipses are replaced with an X, which removes a panel from view.
- A + icon appears on the right. Hovering over it reveals the Edit Studio Layout screen.

Edit Studio Layout

A sidebar containing Panels and Stat Tiles. Access this by enabling edit mode and hovering over the + icon on the far right. Panels and Stat Tiles removed from view will listed here.

Stat Tiles

Displays information about your stream. You can reorder these within the top row by selecting and dragging them around. Select X to remove them from view. You can add stat tiles by enabling edit mode, hovering over the + on the right, and selectin an item under the Stat Tiles section.

Available Stat Tiles:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Session | How long you've been streaming. |
| Viewers | How many people are watching your stream. |
| CPU | What percentage of your computer's CPU Twitch Studio is using. |
| Kbps Upload | How many kilobytes per second your stream is uploading to the internet. |
| Encoder FPS | How many frames per second your stream is running at. |
| Frame Drops | How many frames failed to upload. If this gets too high, your stream may end. |
| Slow Frames | How many frames upload at a slower framerate than what you have set. |
| Memory | How much of your computer's RAM Twitch Studio is using. |
| Followers | How many people follow you (but not how many are viewing your stream). |

Help

Displays a list of resources:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Join Our Discord | Brings you to Twitch's discord page. It will invite you if you aren't a member. |
| FAQ | Brings you to Twitch's FAQ page. |
| Request a Feature | Brings you to Twitch Studio's Ideas forum page. |
| Contact Support | Gathers data about Twitch Studio and opens a popup to file a support ticket. |
| Report a Bug | Like Contact Support, but the Bug Report popup lacks a Subject text field. |

New Updates

Displays a list of recent updates.

Dashboard

Brings you to your account's twitch.tv home page.

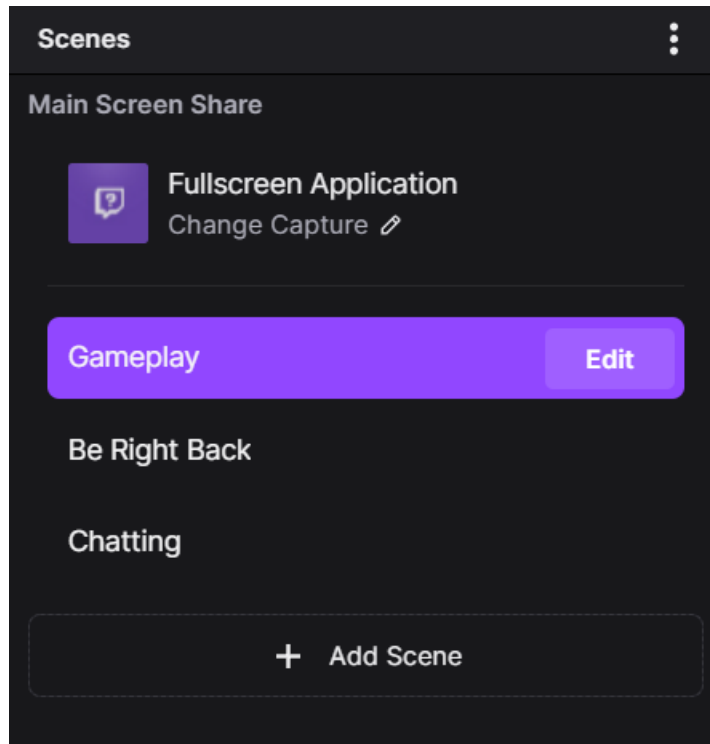
Profile Icon

This is covered by the Edit Studio Layout sidebar in Edit mode.

Opens a submenu:

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Dashboard | Brings you to your account's stream manager page. |
| Channel | Brings you to your public facing channel page. |
| Video Producer | Brings you to your account's video producer page. |
| Language | Opens a list of languages Twitch Studio can display text in. |
| Settings | Opens the settings menu (same as the gear icon in the bottom right). |

Scenes Panel



Main Screen Share

Chooses what the Game Capture layer records from your computer.

Scenes List

Displays available scenes you can use during a stream.

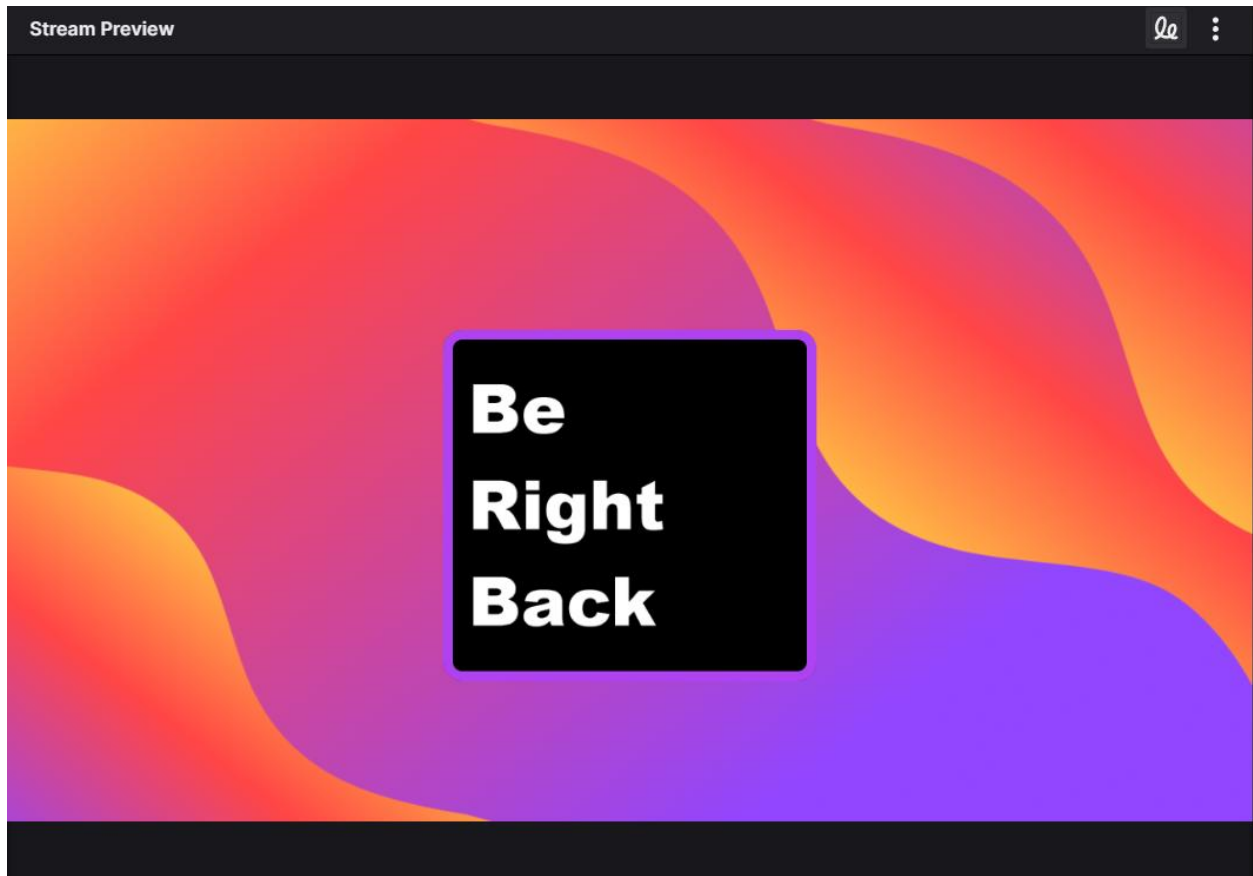
Add Scene

Adds a scene to the Scenes list.

Ellipsis

Allows you to change the display style in this pane between detailed or compact.

Stream Preview Panel



Enable Draw Mode

Toggle the display of a toolset for drawing on the main canvas with the following tools:

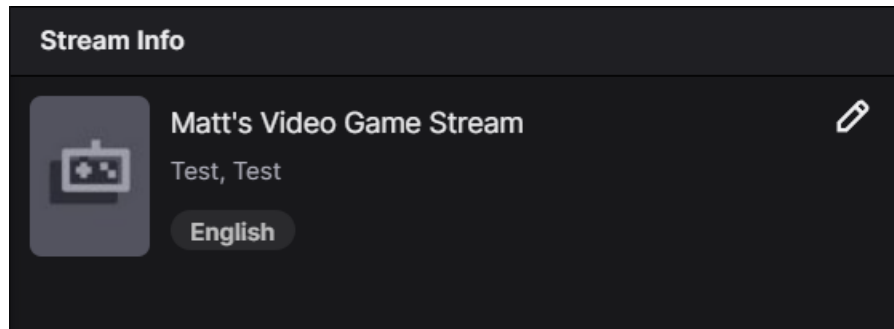


- Brush
- Line
- Change Shape
- Eraser
- Change Size
- Change Color
- Undo
- Redo
- Clear all drawings

Ellipsis

Allows you to hide the video preview. This turns the Stream Preview pane into a blank space.

Stream Info Panel



Edit Stream Info

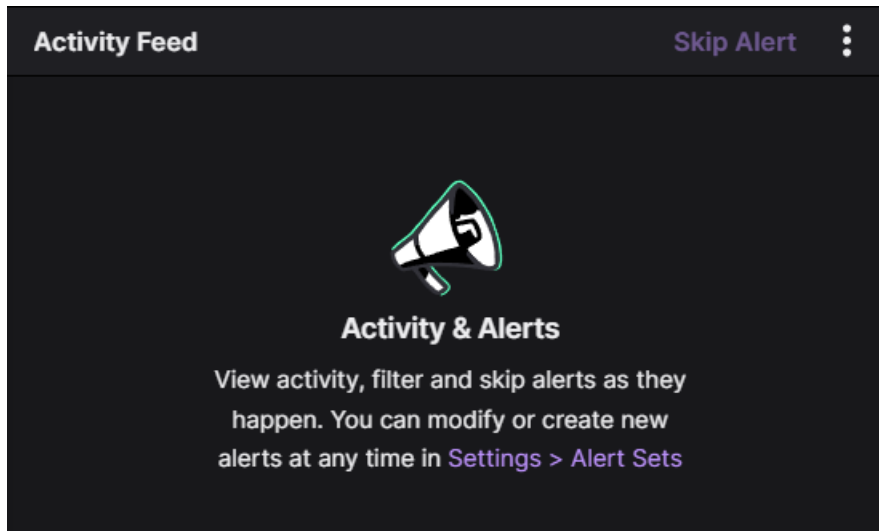
Shows details about your stream. Note these details are public.

The pencil icon brings up a form for changing the following:

- Title
- Go Live Notification
- Category
- Tags
- Stream Language
- Rerun

Selecting the thumbnail on the left will bring you to your stream's listing in [twitch.tv/directory](https://www.twitch.tv/directory).

Activity Feed Panel



Notifications will appear here during your stream.

Ellipsis

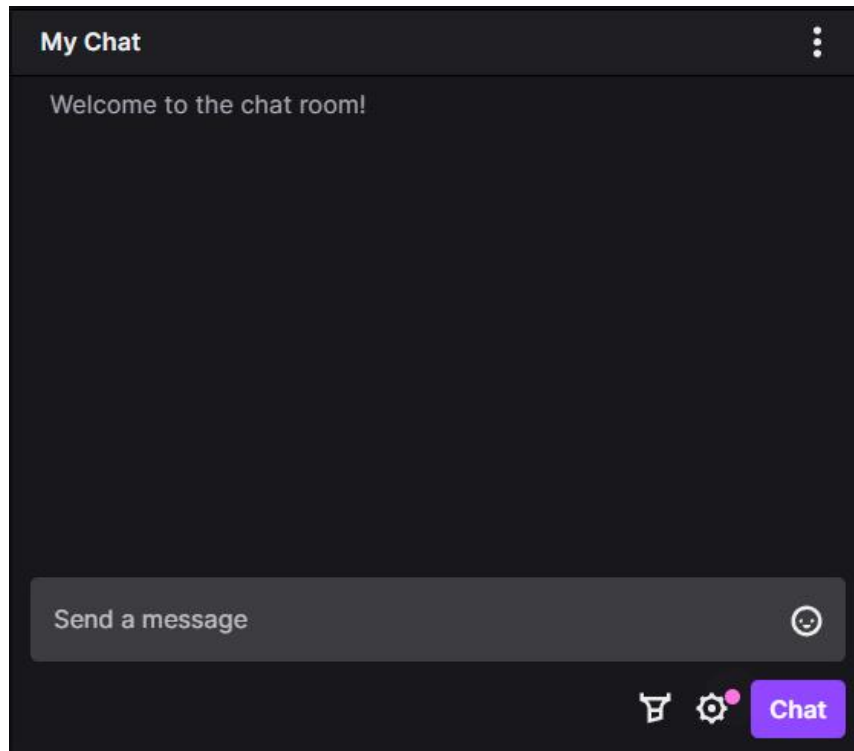
Contains a list of events for which alerts can be toggled on or off.

You can set alerts for the following even types:

- Bits
- Boosts
- Challenges
- Charity Donations
- Followers
- Gifted Subs
- Hype Train
- Raids
- Reward Requests
- Shoutouts
- Subs

The **Do Not Disturb** toggle is in **Ellipsis > Alerts > Do Not Disturb**.

My Chat Panel



Send a message

Send a message to your stream's chat.

Emojis

Add an emoji to your message.

Chat Highlight Settings

Configure which types of messages should be highlighted and choose between Default or Minimized appearance.

Chat Settings

Opens a submenu containing extra settings and chat utilities.

My Preferences:

| | |
|--|---|
| Show Mod Icons | Identifies chat users who are moderators. |
| Show Moderation Actions | Actions mods take show up as chat messages. |
| Show Messages Caught by AutoMod | Actions AutoMod takes show up as chat messages. |
| Chat Appearance | Submenu with the following settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Font size slider• Readable colors toggle• Emote animations toggle• Timestamp for new messages toggle• Replies in chat: minimum or expanded context |
| Chat Highlights | Opens Chat Highlights settings. |
| Deleted Messages | Set how you want to read contents of deleted messages. |
| Pause Chat | Choose what action will pause the chat. |
| Popout Chat | Moves the chat panel to a separate window. |

Channel Modes:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Shield Mode | Enables automatic spam filtering. |
| Emotes-Only Chat | Viewers can only send emojis in the chat, not text. (The broadcaster can still send text messages to the chat.) |
| Followers-Only Chat | Only viewers who follow your channel can chat. |
| Slow Mode | Set how long users have to wait between sending messages. |

Tasks:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Review Recent Raids | See a list of recent raids on your stream. |
| Review Unban Requests | See a list of users requesting you unban them. |
| Manage Moderation Settings | Brings you to your twitch account's moderation settings page in a web browser. |
| Clear Chat | Renders all messages invisible to non-moderators of the chat. Messages sent after clearing are visible to everyone as normal. |

Chat

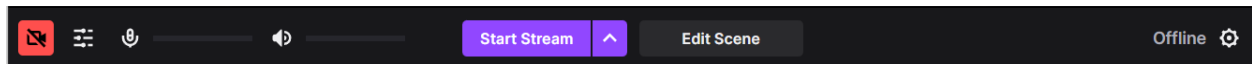
Sends the chat message into the chat.

Ellipsis

Shows and hides the viewer list.

You can search for a username in the Filter textbox. Selecting a user's name brings up a pop up with information on that user.

Bottom Row



Enable All Webcams

Toggles all webcams on or off. This lets you cut your video feed in a pinch if you need to.

Audio Mixer

Sound options for your primary microphone and audio sources.

Clicking the edit button to the right of these opens more settings:

| | |
|--|--|
| Edit Microphone/Audio Source | Dropdown to select which device to edit. |
| Volume | Slider to change microphone volume relative to other sound sources. |
| Convert to Mono | Makes your microphone output to one channel. |
| Name | A custom label for this device. |
| Exclude this source from Clips & VODs | When toggled on, audio from this source will not be included in Clips or Videos on Demand. Useful if you're streaming copyrighted tracks. |
| Audio Delay | Set number of milliseconds for audio from this device to wait before streaming. This helps fix issues where audio and video are not streaming in sync. |
| Compressor | Softens loud noises from this audio source. |
| Noise Gate (audio source only) | Mitigates background noise. |
| Noise Suppressor (audio source only) | More forcefully mitigates background noise. |
| Delete Source (audio source only) | Removes the audio source from Twitch Studio. |

Mute Primary Microphone

Toggles your primary microphone on or off.

Mute Stream

Toggles all sound in your stream from all sources on or off.

Start Stream

Begins streaming the currently selected scene.

Edit Scene

Opens the Scene Edit view.

Settings

This is covered by the Edit Studio Layout sidebar in Edit mode.

Opens the Settings view.