## Introducing Mozilla Chat  
  
  
  
tl;dr: Join us at https://chat.mozillafoundation.org/. Native apps available in "How to Join" below.  
  
  
  
We've all used many chat clients here at Mozilla. There’s IRC, Skype, Google Chat, Slack, Telegram, WhatsApp, and Minigroups, not to mention good old-fashioned email. Each has its own strengths yet all of them combined create a weakness in the organization’s communication, with teams scattered across these services. These tools have a variety of unique features, but there seem to be a common subset of functional and ideological goals that align with those of Mozilla.  
  
  
  
As we search for the right tool, the Engineering and Design teams have been evaluating Mattermost, an open source Slack-alternative–we can all just call it, "Chat". We’ve used it for a few months, contributed some code, and worked out the major usability bugs. Now we’d like to invite the rest of the Foundation to try it out and let us know what you think.  
  
#### Goals of chat software  
  
- Be open and promote inclusivity  
  
- Reduce the need for emails  
  
- Enable access to conversations at any time on any device (not just while online)  
  
- Offer ability to manage conversations across projects and reduce the need for meetings.  
  
#### Useful features of Chat  
  
- Messaging and files  
  
- Send messages and comments across public, private, and 1:1 channels  
  
- Personalize notifications  
  
- Share files and images  
  
- Archiving and search  
  
- Search all channels for past messages and comments  
  
- View recent mentions of your name, username, nickname, and custom search terms  
  
- Receive messages even if you’re offline  
  
- Embeddable Gif support  
  
#### How to join  
  
  
  
Visit https://chat.mozillafoundation.org and sign up. (It’s not integrated with any existing accounts, yet.)  
  
  
  
You can keep it in a browser tab, but you might find it more helpful to download a native app:  
  
1. Download for your platform  
  
 - [OSX](https://github.com/mattermost/desktop/releases/download/v1.1.0/mattermost-desktop-1.1.0-osx.tar.gz)  
  
 - 64-bit [Windows](https://github.com/mattermost/desktop/releases/download/v1.1.0/mattermost-desktop-1.1.0-win64.zip)  
  
 - Other Desktop releases available [here](https://github.com/mattermost/desktop/releases)  
  
2. Install/Copy the Mattermost executable to your Applications folder.  
  
3. If Mac OS gives you an “unsigned developer” warning while opening the app, ctrl-click on the app and click open.  
  
4. Enter Team: `Mozilla`, URL: `https://chat.mozillafoundation.org`  
  
5. Create an account or log in.  
  
  
  
Mobile apps are available for iOS and Android  
  
  
  
Once you're in, you can give feedback in the Mozilla Chat Dev channel.  
  
#### Notifications:  
  
  
  
Notifications can be customized on an account level and a channel level.   
  
- Account Level: Click the menu icon in the top left corner next to your username and check out “Account Settings”.  
  
- Channel level: when in a channel, click the name of it at the top and look at notification preferences. You might want to disable unread notifications for certain channels unless you’re specifically mentioned.  
  
#### Examples  
  
##### Embedded previews of images- including gifs! ![chat-gif](https://cloud.githubusercontent.com/assets/1682681/14321423/1beec600-fbe7-11e5-8149-e92290561fba.gif)  
  
##### Attach files to your conversations! ![chat-attach](https://cloud.githubusercontent.com/assets/1682681/14464033/41609644-009b-11e6-8fda-531433e88938.gif)  
  
##### Direct message users from the sidebar or using the /msg command ![chat-dm](https://cloud.githubusercontent.com/assets/1682681/14464051/56188ba0-009b-11e6-8271-3a0052f72170.gif)  
  
##### Local notifications for mentions, and the ability to mention a whole channel at once (but remember, with great power comes great responsibility) ![chat-mentions](https://cloud.githubusercontent.com/assets/1682681/14464065/612ed3e6-009b-11e6-9b05-c93ff8daa7ec.gif)  
  
##### Search every conversation you’re a part of at once! Or even search for all mentions of yourself using the @ button. ![chat-search](https://cloud.githubusercontent.com/assets/1682681/14464080/7143e92e-009b-11e6-98ff-3ea45ac8ea8c.gif)