

Target audience

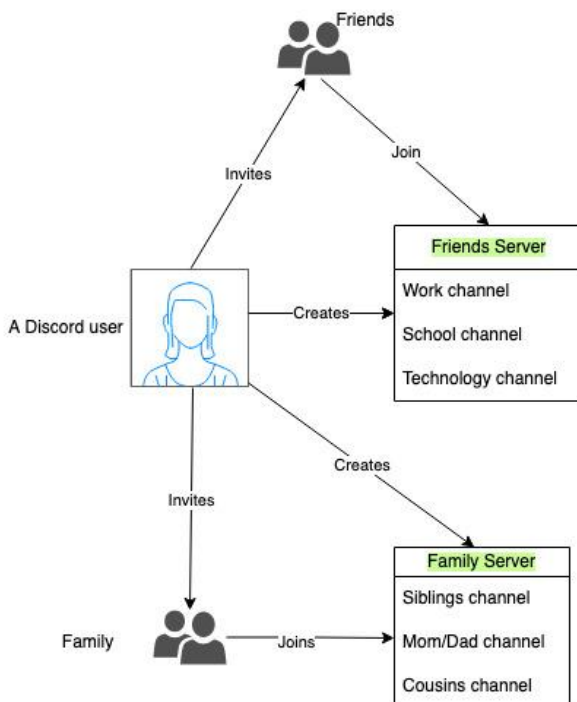
This introduction is for people who are 13 years or older with basic internet fluency. This introduction assumes that desktop users know how to download and install software and how to browse a website. Mobile device users should know how to download and use an app.

You must have internet access to install and use Discord.

Introduction to Discord

Discord is a messaging platform for community use. Discord consists of servers, which are invite-only spaces for specific communities, such as a friend group or family members. Any user can create servers. Within a server, there are channels. Channels keep conversation organized between different topics.

In the diagram below, a Discord user created two servers: one for friends, and one for family. In the friends server, she has a channel for work, a channel for school, and a channel about technology. For the family server, she has a channel for siblings, a channel for parents, and a channel for cousins.



When you create a server, you become the administrator of that server. This gives you full control over the content and administration of the server. As an administrator, you can create new channels, ban users, and invite users to be moderators of the server. You can give moderators different levels of controls. For example, you can let a moderator have full control over the content of a server so they can delete messages or warn users, to create a healthy server environment. You can also give partial control to a moderator. For example, you can let a moderator delete messages but not make new channels.

When you join a server by invitation, you gain the server's default permissions. Permissions, or perms for short, are a way for administrators and moderators to organize users and give certain users specific capabilities, such as read-only perms in certain channels. The administrator or moderators give perms by assigning roles to new users or changing roles for existing users.

Discord brings many benefits. Some of them include:

- Unlike many other competitors, even with a free account, Discord never deletes messages after a certain period. This means you can always access past conversations.
- You can easily organize your communities and groups by using different servers for separate conversations in each community.
- Discord integrates with other apps such as Spotify (for music) and Steam (for gaming), so your friends can join you in with what you're listening to or what you're playing.
- Discord is searchable. You can filter the results by date, by channel, by user, and more.
- Discord supports both text and voice channels, letting you keep in contact with your community in different ways.
- Discord is ad-free, without commercial distractions, even with a free account.

In the United States, you must be 13 years or older to use Discord. Other countries have [different age rules](#). To sign up for a Discord account, go to <https://discord.com>. You can join and create up to 100 servers for free.

Discord is available on Windows, macOS, Linux, iOS, and Android.

- For mobile devices, download the Discord app from your App Store and then create an account.
- For desktop/laptop users, you can install the Discord application from their [download link](#). If you do not want to install Discord on your computer, you can open a browser and then type <https://discord.com/> to use Discord through the browser client.

For details on how to use Discord, refer to the Discord User Guide. Happy discording!