



Telegram

a cloud based instant messaging app

Telegram is a cloud based instant messaging app, similar to Whatsapp and Facebook Messenger - that works across several platforms and accessed by people throughout the world. The app increased in popularity in 2021 after WhatsApp announced changes to its privacy policy that would allow it to share data with parent company Meta.

Telegram is free to download and use on any device. This lets you keep track of messages easily. Users can send files of any type, make video calls and participate in group chats. Users can also enable encryption and disappearing messages.

According to the terms of service telegram is safest for those ages 16 and older. Apple app store has set the age restrictions to 17 and older, while Google Play store rates it as requiring parental guidance – however users are not asked their age when signing up.

Users can also join groups that can hold up to 200,000 members, most of whom won't personally know each other. Anyone can be invited by their mobile number or username to join a group. If privacy settings aren't set to limit who can see a user's account, then anyone from that group can see whether or not someone is online and any other information available.

Additionally, while users must be 16 or older to join the app, according to Telegram's Terms of Service, the app does not ask for age confirmation upon download and sign up.



Twitch

a live video streaming platform

Twitch is a live streaming platform popular among those interested in video games. Users can watch live or pre-recorded videos of gameplay while chatting to others in the stream via the website or twitch app. Geared towards the gaming community it also offers gaming news, product announcements and broadcasts esports tournaments which offer large sums of prize money to professional players.

Twitch is available across devices. There are 2 ways for Twitch to work: as a viewer (watch live gameplay, live chat, subscribe) or as a streamer.

To use Twitch, users must be at least 13-years-old. However, the Terms of Service also require anyone under 18 to only use Twitch under parent supervision.

Accounts found to belong to a user under 13 will be terminated. The Apple App Store gives the Twitch app a 17+ age rating while the Google Play Store rates it suitable for Teens



Signal

Signal is an encrypted messaging service for instant messaging, voice, and video calls. The instant messaging function includes sending text, voice notes, images, videos, and other files. Communication may be one-to-one between users, or for group messaging.



Session

Session is an end to end encrypted messenger that removes sensitive data collection and is designed for people who want privacy.