



WhatsApp

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WhatsApp was founded in February 2009 by Brian Acton and Jan Koum, two former employees of Yahoo.

In January 2009, after Koum purchased an iPhone, he and Acton decided to create an app for the App Store.

Koum named the app WhatsApp to sound like "what's up".

More than 2 billion people in over 180 countries now use WhatsApp to stay in touch with friends and family, anytime and anywhere.

WhatsApp is free, although Data charges might apply. It offers simple, secure, reliable messaging and calling, available on phones all over the world.

WhatsApp started as an alternative to SMS. The App now supports sending and receiving a variety of media: text, photos, videos, documents and location, as well as voice and video calls.

WhatsApp has built in end-to-end encryption to let people communicate anywhere in the world without barriers and is secure and safe to use.

In 2014, Facebook (now Meta Platforms) announced it was acquiring WhatsApp for US\$19 billion.

WhatsApp was the 3rd most popular downloaded mobile phone app between 2010–2022.

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In the bad old days, texting plans were pricey and you could easily rack up hefty charges if you burned through your allotted amount, and you could forget about group conversations or easily chatting with people in other countries.

WhatsApp was the first mobile messaging platform to gain critical mass. Since then, it has been bought by Meta (formerly Facebook) and upgraded its security. With a foundation on excellent technology and a huge built-in audience, the future of WhatsApp is assured.

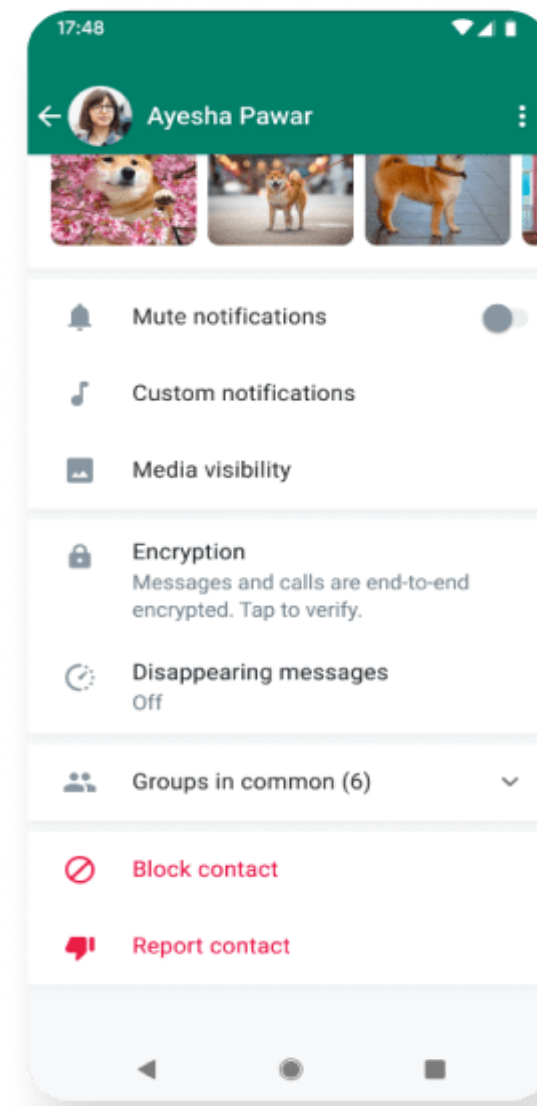
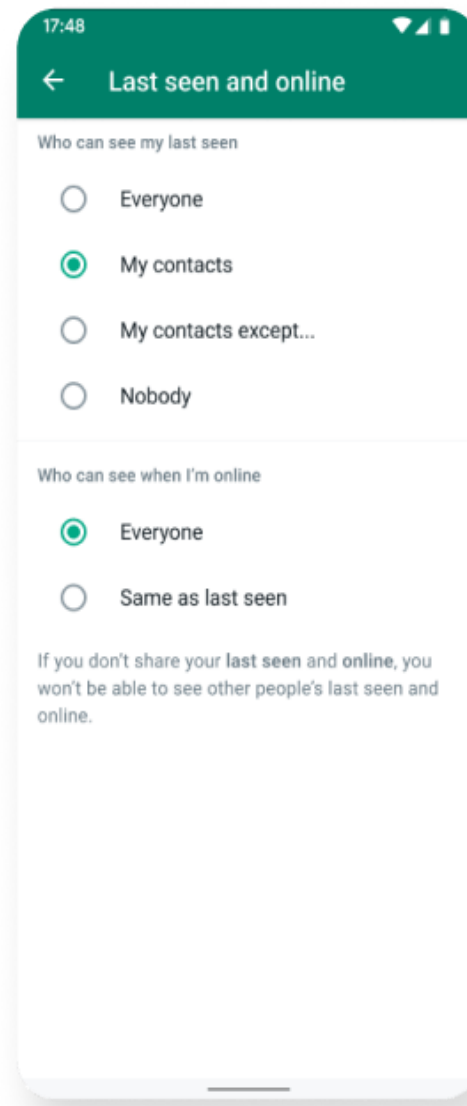
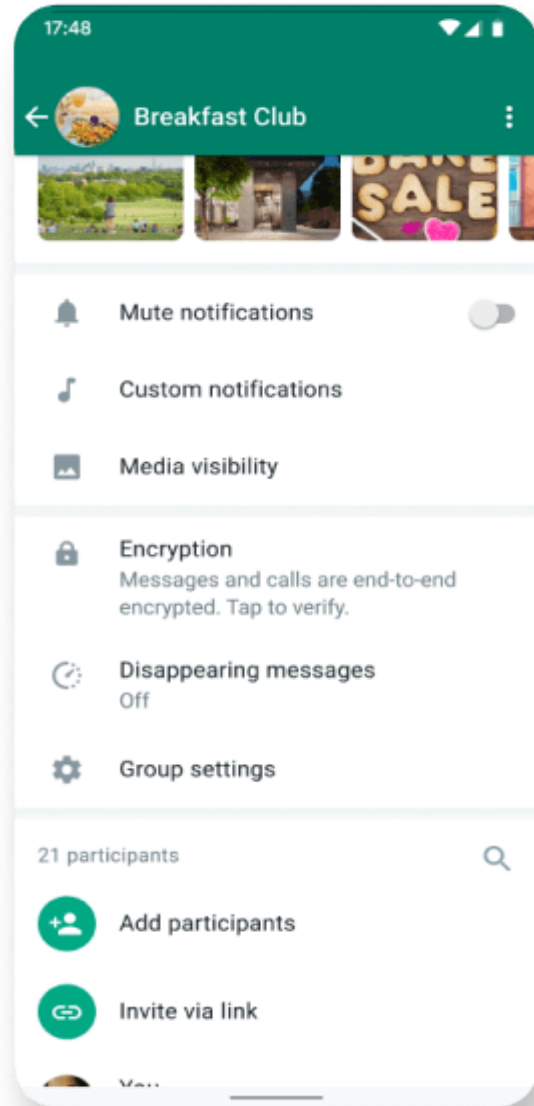
Trust is the foundation of any secure messaging app, and WhatsApp does a lot to earn your trust. For one thing, it's built on the tried-and-tested Signal Protocol for sending and receiving end-to-end encrypted messages(E2EE).

This means only the sender and the intended recipient can read messages on this service. Not even the people at WhatsApp (and by extension, Meta) can read your messages.

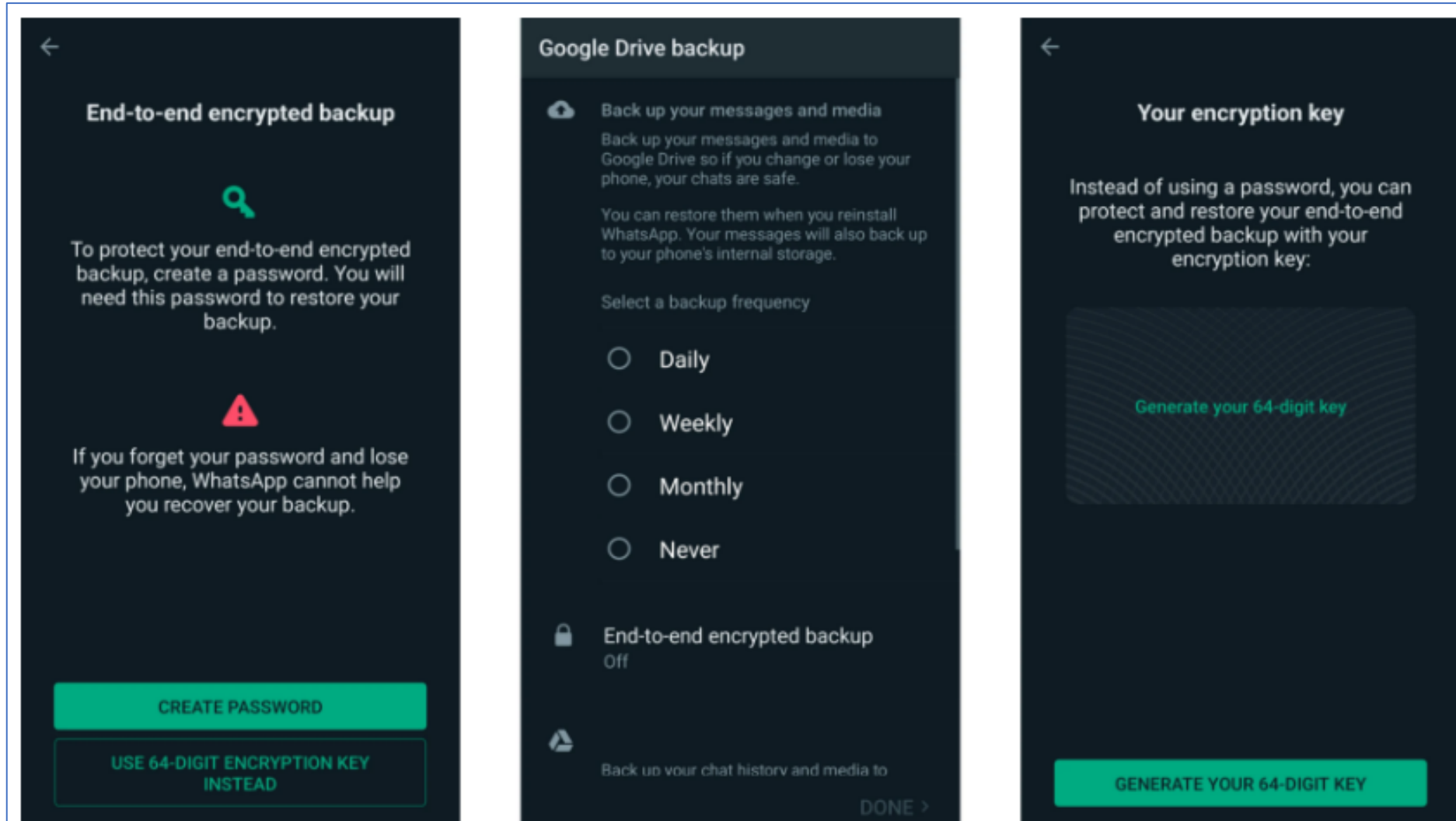
Other messengers, like Facebook Messenger and Telegram, have E2EE as an option and only in some contexts, but for WhatsApp, it's the default.

There is one caveat for WhatsApp's encryption scheme, that's in any communication with businesses. WhatsApp and others could see what you're saying in any interactions with business accounts. In practice, this exception isn't a problem, but anytime you have exceptions for encryption, things could change.

WhatsApp - Settings



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Encrypting your backups protects them from theft and analysis. WhatsApp suggests turning off iCloud backups for WhatsApp.

WhatsApp - Pros & Cons

PROS

End-to-end encryption by default

Enormously popular

Self-destructing messages and images

Video and voice calls

Fun and lively stickers

Free

CONS

Requires phone number and contacts list to function

Backups (especially iCloud) may be vulnerable to surveillance

Some users may not trust Meta to protect their privacy

WhatsApp – Free up Storage in 60 seconds

Many of us use WhatsApp to keep in contact with friends and family, including those in other countries. But if you're constantly receiving (and saving) pictures and videos, your phone might not have much space left for other files.

Every picture, video or document sent to you on WhatsApp could be automatically stored on your device and take up valuable space.

To free up space, what you need to do is basically the same on both Android and iOS – the only difference is at the start of the process.

On Android – open the WhatsApp app and tap on the three-dot menu button, then Settings.

On iOS – open the WhatsApp app and tap on Settings.

Now, regardless of what type of device you're using, choose Storage and data. From here, select Manage Storage. This will tell you how much storage space WhatsApp is using on your phone or tablet.

You'll also see which are the largest files (in the Larger than 5MB section), plus a list of all the conversations in WhatsApp (called Chats), sorted by how much storage space they're taking up. Tap on a conversation from the top of the list. You'll now see just how many images, videos and GIFs are associated with the conversation and how much space they're taking up.

When you're happy to start deleting, whether you're in Chats or Larger than 5MB, choose Select. You can now tap and hold on each file to place a tick against the ones that you would like to delete, then select the Bin icon. You can also choose Select all in the top-right corner. Press the Delete Item button to permanently delete files.



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