

Skype

Skype Overview

Skype is an **online communications service** that has both free and paid services available to Skype users, using an internet connection. For one-on-one communications, you can sign up for a free account, though any calls or connections to people who are not using a Skype account will cost a fee. For group video conferencing, at least one member of the call must have Skype Premium or a subscription to a business group video call plan through Skype Manager, which will cost a fee.

For online classes, Skype can provide a way for students and instructors to stay connected. For example, students can use audio or video conferencing to meet and discuss group projects. Instructors could also use Skype to provide a virtual “office hours,” using document sharing and screen sharing to illustrate ideas a student may be having trouble with. Many useful features are available for free.

The most current services that are available through Skype can be found on their [website](#).

Skype Services

Everyone can get a Skype account for free. But you can do much more and save money when you upgrade to a Premium account. Here's the difference:

Feature	Premium account	Free account
Free Skype-to-Skype video and voice calls	Yes	Yes
Group calls	Yes	Yes
Instant messaging	Yes	Yes
Video messaging**	Yes	X
Group video calls	Yes	X
Group screen sharing	Yes	X
No advertising	Yes	X
Live chat customer support	Yes	X
Unlimited calls to a country/region of your choice†	Yes	X
	\$9.99 per month	Always Free

** A fair usage policy applies to video messaging.

Get Premium

To get Premium for \$9.99 per month please visit the following link:

<http://www.skype.com/en/premium/choose-country/>

Get a day pass

Try out a Premium account for the day for just \$4.99 - get group video calling, group screen sharing and live chat customer support. Does not include calls to phones.

To buy a day pass please visit the following link:

<https://secure.skype.com/account/buy/video?product-type=sp-global-daypass-10>