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Whatsapp 2019 apps

An estimated 1.5 billion people use WhatsApp. If you haven't tried it yet, where have you been? The Western world's favorite messaging app is now owned by Facebook, but it hasn't yet been contaminated with Mark Zuckerberg's toxic sludge. WhatsApp is a brilliant app, so it's worth getting to grips with. Cyber Monday deals: check out the best deals right now! Read on to learn more about the basics, and the advanced features hidden beneath the surface. Even if you've been using it for years, WhatsApp probably has a feature or two that you haven't used yet, and you'll find it here. The real basicsImage credit: TechRadar Let's start with the real basics, for those who haven't used WhatsApp before. The app automatically pulls people from your contacts book. Just press the message icon at the bottom right of the screen and your friends choose to start a chat with it. This is also where you create groups, which are just like micro chat rooms. Many people use WhatsApp only for sms chat, but you also call and video chat. This uses data instead of your fee of minutes, so is free to use while you are connected to Wi-Fi. Or if you have unlimited data. The conversations and video buttons are just at the top of the chat screen. How do I download WhatsApp? Build profileImagecredit: TechRadar When you first set up WhatsApp, tap your name. You also edit this and build your profile later. Tap the three-pip settings icon in the upper-right corner of the screen, and then select Settings. At the top of this menu, tap your profile name and you'll go to the page where you change your view image, the name your contacts see, and your profile About blurb. We recommend that you stick to your real name, leave the parting simple, and let your profile picture do the talking. Tap the camera icon on this screen to use a photo from your phone's gallery or take a new selfie. What happens when you switch phones? Image credit: TechRadar WhatsApp has a knack for quickly becoming the app you use the most. You're going to want to take care of it. The service automatically stores your chats and shared photos on a cloud server. If you switch phones, you won't lose calls. And if you make that move (assuming you haven't turned on advanced security) all you have to do is confirm a code on your phone number. However, if you switch phones as often as we do, you'll know that WhatsApp's backup process isn't immediate. Some messages may be lost. So before you switch, go to Settings > Chats > Chat Backup and see a button that manually forces a backup. This happens differently once a day as standard, and only if your phone has a Wi-Fi connection. You also use the backup frequency on page change. It's also worth noting that cloud backups can't be moved between iOS and Android. So if you are planning to switch operating system you may need to say goodbye to your WhatsApp chats, or find a third party backup solution. Image credit: TechRadar WhatsApp offers a lot of first experience of actually sending GIFs. Since all your messages and media are sent over Wi-Fi or a cellular data connection, you don't have to worry about any of the media messaging costs we used to stretch a decade or so ago. Sending things other than text is a doddle. You'll see a smiley face, a paper clip 'attach' button, and a camera icon in the text input bar. Use the camera one to capture and send an image that moment, or the paper clip to send a photo, file or video from your gallery. You even use WhatsApp to send documents. The smiley face button adds the lifeblood of WhatsApp communication for many of us: emoticons, GIFs and stickers. You should see these along the bottom when you tap the smiley face. With both Android and iOS versions, you can add new collections of stickers by downloading packages from the app store in question. You should see a link To get more stickers in the sticker library section. Sending gifts in WhatsAppHow to get stickers in WhatsAppswofoldEn two-step verification (also known as 2FA) is the best step towards securing your WhatsApp account. If someone picks up your phone, they can simply assume your identity on the platform via SMS verification. WhatsApp's 2FA brand ensures that you enter a passcode when you set up a new copy of WhatsApp. Of course, most won't do this often. And that greatly increases the chances of forgetting your WhatsApp 2FA password by the time it's needed. So think carefully about what you're going to use. To enable 2FA authentication, tap the three-pip icon in the upper-right corner of WhatsApp. Then select Settings > account > two-step verification. Choose the PIN you enter next time. Phone numbers changelImage credit: TechRadar Most of us keep our phone number across many different phones, even after changing networks. After all, switching numbers can have as much of an impact on your social life as moving. With WhatsApp, you can migrate your account to a new number to minimize this disruption. However, to do this, you must have access to text messages from both numbers. Otherwise, someone would be able to nick your account just by knowing your phone number. The migration feature can be found in Settings > Account > Change Number.Sharing WhatsApp with your computerImage credit: TechRadar Using WhatsApp on your computer is one of the handiest features that many people don't know about. Lets you have a conversation while working on any laptop or using just about any web browser. Messages popping up can be distracting, but they're not as distracting as grabbing your phone every 30 seconds. To try this out, go to on your laptop or desktop's web browser. Then, on your chat screen on your phone, tap the three-pip icon in the upper-right corner and select WhatsApp Web. Then use your phone's camera to scan the QR code on your computer screen. WhatsApp Web uses a browser cookie to keep you logged in, so don't forget out if other people will use your laptop. You also download the WhatsApp app for Windows or macOS to stay connected. Messages to rememberImage credit: TechRadar Finding a message with someone's address, or an important reminder, can be tricky. You have to go through hundreds of messages, or remember a specific word from that message. You get more organized, though. With WhatsApp, you can stare messages, like the equivalent of it, or favor a message on a social network. Press the message long until the pop-up appears, and then tap the star icon at the top of the screen. To look through your main messages, tap the triple-dot icon on the chat screen and select Starred Messages.Customize WhatsApp's appearanceImage credit: TechRadar You're brightening up your WhatsApp app with backgrounds. These act as a backdrop for your chats. But you don't change the background in the chat feed screen or the conversation bubbles themselves, because WhatsApp likes to keep it relatively clear. To change your chat background, go to a chat, tap the three-point settings button, and then wallpaper. Select an image in your gallery. We like to use a block color, which is an alternative option that you will find in this wallpaper menu. It prevents the warboelen effect some wallpapers will have. It is best to find a shade that does not conflict with the on-killable WhatsApp signature green. Make WhatsApp easier in the eyeEr is a more practical way to mess with the look of WhatsApp as well. You change the font size, one sport larger or smaller. We honestly think the 'small' option is a little too small unless your friends send giant essays and you're tired of scrolling. But the bigger one is useful if you have some near-field vision deterioration. It almost all comes around the age of 40, as sure as middle age spread and existential anxiety. You can find the text size options in the Settings menu in the Chat Summary screen, under Chats > Font Size.Blocking spam and unwanted attentionImage credit: TechRadar Time to take out the block wall. If someone keeps bullying you, or you've received WhatsApp spam, block that person, stat. Go to the chat screen, select the Three Point Settings button, and then More and Block. You also notify the sender if this is dodgy at the next level. If a chat is a minor annoyance rather than a big attack, you might want to mute them instead. You can do this from the chat summary screen. Press the input of the chat at long press, and then tap the Mute icon at the top of the screen. Lets you choose between muting the call for a few hours, a week or a year. Muted messages are still displayed in WhatsApp, you just won't be there Pointed out. Muting works well for groups full of people trying (and not) to be funny. Export your chatsImage credit: TechRadar WhatsApp automatically backs up your chat history to the cloud. But if you want to keep a chat extra safe or send a chat history to someone who loses their phone (and you do that. The app lets you export conversations as txt files and share all those images from that chat if you want. Go to the chat you want to export and tap the Three Pip Settings button in the upper-right corner of the screen. Tap the More option on the menu and export Chat. You'll be asked to choose whether to export with or without media and how you want to share the files. Choose text only and send it via email. Text files are quite small, even if your chat history isn't. Quick-fire chatImage credit: TechRadar Who hasn't sent a message they regret on WhatsApp? And if you don't think so, you were probably just too chillingly tired or drunk to remember. However, if you really want to live in the WhatsApp fast lane you tweak the app so that it sends messages as soon as you use the 'Enter' key. We find these a little too risky, not least if we want to make sure our spelling and grammar aren't too awful. Yes, even in WhatsApp. But if you'd like to chat in a stream of consciousness style, you'll find this option in Settings > Chats > Enter is Send.Here's how to delete WhatsApp messages messages