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Decide Which Group Chat is Right For You

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Comparison table: Google Chat vs. Slack vs. Microsoft Teams

There are some groups at Brown that are currently using the Slack chat service for group chat functionality. Google Chat may be a good alternative for you, due to its integration with the Google ecosystem, and its price (free). Here's a comparison of some of the core functions between Google Chat, Slack, and Microsoft's Teams service.

| | Google Chat | Slack | Microsoft Teams |
|--|----------------|-------|--------------------|
| USES "TWO-WAY OPT-IN" You have to add or accept contacts before being able to message. This prevents strangers from sending you unwanted messages. | X | x | |
| SHOWS THAT SOMEONE IS TYPING You can see when someone is typing a reply. | X | X | |
| COMPATIBILITY IOS | | | |
| | X | X | X |
| Android | X | X | X |
| DO. | X | X | X |
| PC | | | |
| | | | |
| ABILITY TO SEND DOCUMENTS You can send documents using the app. | X | X | x |
| HAS SEARCH OPTION If you need to find something specific, you can search your data for certain keywords. | X | X | X |
| HAS TWO-WAY VIDEO CHAT You can have a one-on-one conversation with video | X | x | X |
| YOU CAN SWITCH OFF NOTIFICATIONS You can set specific notifications to snooze mode if you don't want to be disturbed during a specific time frame. | X | X | X |
| HAS TWO-WAY VOICE CHAT With voice chat you can communicate quickly and easily, like making a traditional phone call. | X | x | X |

HAS GROUP VOICE CHAT

This is like a phone conversation with several people at once.