



PRIVACY 101: PRIVATE MESSAGING PLATFORMS

HOW SAFE IS MY MESSAGING APP?

We use messaging apps for all sorts of things. But how secure are they? Here's a brief breakdown:



SIGNAL

Owned by: Signal Messenger

The best and most secure app for texting/calling. Not only are Signal messages and calls end-to-end encrypted, but Signal also protects your metadata – the information about who you communicate with.



IOS MESSAGING

Owned by: Apple Inc

iPhone-to-iPhone (iMessage) is E2EE, but iCloud backups may include stored messages (use a password for iCloud to encrypt).



ANDROID MESSAGING

Owned by: Open Handset / Google

Google Messages is E2EE for Android-to-Android texts, but Google can see who you communicate with and when.



WHATSAPP / META MESSAGING

Owned by: Meta Platforms

Uses E2EE, but Meta is able to see who you communicate with and when.

END-TO-END ENCRYPTION?

The sender's device encrypts messages that can only be decrypted by the recipient's device. Sometimes called E2EE.

SAFETY TIPS

- Use a password on your phone
- Don't text in high-risk situations
- Turn on disappearing messages (Signal only)

MOST IMPORTANTLY

Many problems with secure messaging come from human error. Make sure you trust your contacts, use passwords, avoid screenshots, and be careful who you add to the chat.



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