

# How to Install Skype

## What is Skype?

Skype allows you to have free text-chats, high-quality phone and video calls around the globe to every other Skype User over your Internet Access. You also get the opportunity for calls to regular and cell phones at very low rates or at no-cost (US and Canada). Using Skype offers many advantages.

**For detailed information about Skype go to:**

<http://www.skype.com/download/>

## Hardware and Software Requirements

- **Speakers and microphone:** built-in microphone or in your webcam, external speakers or headset
- **Webcam**, if you want to make video calls.
- **Operating-Systems:** Mac OS X 10.3.9 - 10.4 (OS X 10.1-2 also possible, try) / Windows 2000 or XP (Windows 2000 users require DirectX 9.0 for video calls)
- **Internet connection:** minimum 128 Kbps, or any broadband access such as cable, DSL, etc.). For video calls as fast as possible.
- At least 400 MHz processor, 128 MB RAM and 20 MB free disk space on your hard drive.

## How to get it

**Go to:** <http://www.skype.com/download/>

Click the download button there and follow the instructions.

**For Video-Skype on Mac** use this preview-version:

<http://www.skype.com/download/skype/macosx/videopreview.html>

## Webcams

It is far better to have a good, more expensive webcam. Its no fun at all to have a low picture quality. You will not use your camera then.

### **Which webcam for Windows?**

Best follow this recommondations:

<http://us.accessories.skype.com/direct/skypeusa/accessoriesList.jsp?acctype=50>

There is also an special Skype-webcam from Logitech. Attention: Not every webcam running under Windows is also running with Skype!

Follow also this (Windows-)guide:

[http://www.skype.com/help/guides/howtoskype\\_video/](http://www.skype.com/help/guides/howtoskype_video/)

### **Which webcam for a Mac?**

Best is to have a new Mac with built-in camera. If not: Hardly any webcam is compatible. We found out that for Mac OS 10.1 - 10.4 the Logitech Quickcam 4000 Pro is working. Some of them have a clip for Laptops and flat screens some don't (!). All have a built-in microphone. The original prize was around 90 - 130 USD. Apple's iSight-Camera should also work. You can find these two old models on ebay.

## Final Steps

When everything is installed, share your username (should be similar to your real name) with your friends, so that they can find you in Skype. Fill out your profile with your realname, in order to be found through the Skype search. You can also search for your friends.