

Welcome to Discord: What You Need Before You Begin

A beginner's guide to getting set up quickly and safely

Introduction:

Before you dive into Discord, there are a few things you'll want to have ready to make your setup experience smooth. This guide walks you through everything you'll need, including your login basics and security steps like two-factor authentication (2FA). Whether you're joining a creative community, a work channel, or just exploring, this guide is for you.

What You'll Need Before Starting:

- ✓ A valid email address
 - ✓ A secure password
 - ✓ A mobile device (for 2FA setup)
 - ✓ An authenticator app like Google Authenticator, Authy, or Microsoft Authenticator
- Note: Discord now requires 2FA for many server permissions. Having it ready will save time and prevent frustration.

💡 Before you begin:

- Make sure you've already set up two-factor authentication (2FA). See the guide titled 'How to Set Up Two-Factor Authentication in 5 Minutes' if needed.
- Also ensure you have access to your email account on the device where you're setting up Discord. This will make account creation faster and more seamless.

Step 1: Create Your Discord Account

1. Visit <https://discord.com> and click Sign Up.
2. Enter your email, username, and password.
3. Confirm your email through the link sent to your inbox.
4. Log in to access the Discord dashboard.

Step 2: Enable Two-Factor Authentication (2FA)

1. In Discord, click the gear icon (User Settings) near your profile.
2. Select My Account > Enable Two-Factor Auth.
3. Follow the prompts to scan a QR code using your chosen authenticator app.

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4. Enter the 6-digit code to complete setup.

Pro Tip: Save your backup codes somewhere secure. If you lose your 2FA device, you'll need them to regain access.

Step 3: Join Your First Server

1. Click the “+” icon in the left sidebar to join a server.
2. Choose “Join a Server” and enter the invite link provided by your community or team.
3. Follow any onboarding steps provided within the server (rules, verification, role selection, etc.)

Final Notes:

- Don't share your password or backup codes with anyone.
- Use a strong, unique password for Discord.
- Familiarize yourself with server channels and rules to get the most out of the experience.

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