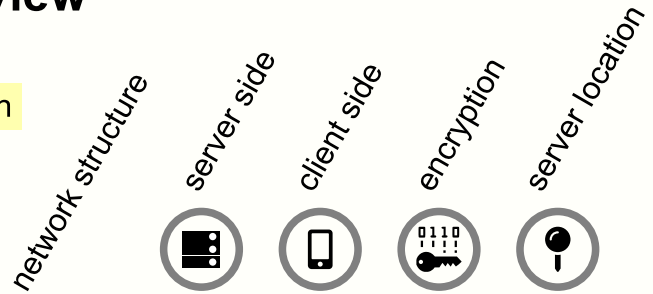


# Messenger systems - quick overview

- open source (free software) recommendation
- closed source (proprietary)

**Messenger system** Examples of programs/apps  
(which offer at least Android or iOS apps)



## Messengers for regular chat (à la WhatsApp)

Messenger	Network structure	Server side	Client side	Encryption	Server location
Briar  Jami  Tox <b>peer to peer (serverless/integrated)</b> = <b>provider-independent</b>	-				-none-
Int. chat standard (XMPP) <small>Conversations, Quicksy, blabber, moncles, Snikket, Yaxim, Gajim, Monal, Siskin, Dino, ...</small>					any
Matrix <small>FluffyChat, ditto, ...</small> SimpleX <b>decentralized (federated)</b> everyone can choose server and software <b>freely</b> = <b>provider-independent</b>					any
E-Mail / IMAP <small>Delta Chat, Dib2Qm, ...</small>					any
Wire <b>centralized</b> provider (rights holder) does <b>not</b> federate although software is open source = <b>provider-dependent</b>					EU (A)
Signal <b>centralized</b> = <b>provider-dependent</b>	(S)				USA (A)
Threema					Switzerland
Telegram <b>centralized</b> proprietary server software (company secret) client side may be open source = <b>provider-dependent</b>				(T) 1	unkn. 2
Whatsapp  Viber					USA / unknown
Skype  Facebook Messenger				1	USA
WeChat  QQ					China

## Teamchat Solutions / Groupware (optimized for group work à la Slack)

Matrix <small>Element, SchildiChat, ...</small> <b>decentralized (federated)</b> = <b>provider-independent</b>					any
Rocket.Chat (only <b>limited</b> federation between servers)					any
Mattermost  Zulip  Nextcloud Talk <b>decentr.</b>	(F)			3	any
Webex <b>centralized</b> server and client are proprietary and company secrets = <b>provider-dependent</b>					USA+EU
Slack  Teams  VooV					USA/China
Discord					USA

(A) AWS = Amazon Web Services = hosted on Amazon servers more information: www.freie-messenger.de/warumnicht  
 (F) No federation between servers (german website) www.freie-messenger.de/systemvergleich  
 (S) The server code is owned by Signal and is usually (not always) published; unofficial clients aren't allowed to connect to Signal's server  
 (T) Encryption has to be activated manually ("secret chat"), has drawbacks  
 (1) No encryption in groups (2) Depending on the location of the user  
 (3) None or incomplete end-to-end-encryption

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[www.freie-messenger.de](http://www.freie-messenger.de)