

Slack vs Discord vs Discourse

Choosing the best tool for your community

curated by



Slack



Discord



Discourse

	Slack	Discord	Discourse
Pricing	Free plan with limited functionality; paid plans starting at \$8 per user per month and up	No cost to host a community (server); user accounts can be free or \$4.99/mo	Self-hosted plans are free, otherwise varies by hosting provider starting at \$5/month; Discourse.org plans start at \$100/mo
Public conversations	✓	✓	✓
Realtime Chat	✓	✓	⊖
Private messages	✓	✓	✓
Chat Threads	✓	⊖	⊖
Voice chat	One-to-one only on free plan	✓	⊖
Screen sharing	Paid plans only	✓	⊖
Video calls	One-to-one only on free plan; group video calls up to 15 people on paid plans	Group calls with up to 25 participants	⊖
Message history	10k messages retained on free plan; unlimited on paid plans	Unlimited	Unlimited
Indexed content	⊖	⊖	✓
Community Discoverability	⊖	Discord-hosted community search	via SEO, based on indexed content
Moderation and Permissions	Extremely limited	Fine-grained, highly customizable	Fine-grained, highly customizable
Recognition (points, badges, leaderboards)	⊖	Limited, but possible via the API	Various manual and automatic badges; highly customizable rules
SSO Support	Plus plan and up	Not supported	Supported out-of-the-box
API	Well-documented	Well-documented	Well-documented
Integrations	Mature ecosystems ; limited to 10 on the free plan	Largely focused on gaming	✓
Bots	Mature ecosystem; organized marketplace; focused on business use cases	Small bot library, more possible with custom code	Not without extensive custom code
Source code	Closed Source	Closed Source	Open Source
Insights and analytics	Free plan limited to monthly active members and messages sent	⊖	Admin dashboard with many charts included; query your data using SQL
File storage	5GB per workspace on free plans; 10GB+ per member on paid plans	Unlimited, but capped at 8mb uploads for free users 50mb for Nitro (paid users)	10GB and up for paid plans; otherwise unlimited but costs depends on hosting provider
User model	Users required to create an account for each community	Users have a single account they use to log into any community	Users required to create an account for each community
Mobile apps	✓	✓	✓
Aesthetic	Friendly and professional	Art and copy strongly influenced by gaming culture	Plain, encourages customization with CSS
Design customization	Several preloaded themes + the ability to add custom CSS	Light and dark theme options	Highly customizable

Curated by **Orbit**, the community CRM for delivering stellar member experience.

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