

How to Use FaceTime on Android in 2026: Join Calls Without an App

TechRounder PDF Edition

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Quick answer

You can join a FaceTime call on Android through your browser, but there's still no FaceTime app for Android, and you still can't start a call from an Android phone. An iPhone, iPad, or Mac user creates a link from their FaceTime app and sends it to you. You open that link in Chrome, Edge, or Samsung Internet, type in your name, allow camera and microphone access, and wait for the host to let you in. No Apple Account needed, no download needed, and the call is end-to-end encrypted just like any other FaceTime call.

If someone in your life has an iPhone and you're on Android, you've probably run into this: they want to FaceTime, and your phone doesn't have the option. Apple never built a FaceTime app for Android, and that still hasn't changed in 2026. What has been possible since iOS 15 launched in 2021 is joining a FaceTime call straight from a browser, no app required, as long as someone with an Apple device invites you. Here's exactly how that works today, what's changed since Apple first rolled it out, what you're able to do once you're in a call, and how to fix the problems people run into most often.

What "FaceTime on Android" Actually Means

There's no FaceTime app in the Google Play Store, and there never has been. What Android users get instead is a browser-based version of FaceTime that runs entirely in Chrome, Edge, or Samsung Internet. Apple built it on WebRTC, the same open video-calling technology used by many browser-based meeting tools, which is why it works without installing anything. The catch is that this only works one way. An Apple user has to start things off. Android and Windows users can join a call, but they can't create one, schedule one, or invite anyone else to one.

What You Need Before You Start

On the Apple side, the person creating the link needs iOS 15, iPadOS 15, or macOS Monterey (12) or later. That's a low bar at this point since Apple is currently on iOS/iPadOS 26.6 and macOS Tahoe 26.6.1, so any iPhone or Mac that's had its software updated in the last few years qualifies. On your Android side, you'll need:

- Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge (Samsung Internet also works on Galaxy phones). Firefox isn't officially supported and can behave inconsistently.
- A stable Wi-Fi or mobile data connection.
- Camera and microphone permissions allowed for the browser.

How to Join a FaceTime Call on Android

The process happens in two halves: the Apple user creates and shares the link, then you open it and join. Step 1: The Apple user opens the FaceTime app and taps Create Link. Step 2: They can optionally name the link, then choose how to share it, such as Messages, email, or WhatsApp. Step 3: You open the link on your Android phone. It should open directly in your default browser. Step 4: Type in your name and tap Continue. This is just a display name for the call; you don't need an Apple Account or any account at all. Step 5: Your browser will ask for camera and microphone permission. Allow both, or the other person won't be able to see or hear you. Step 6: Tap Join on the calling screen. Step 7: You'll land on a "Waiting to be let in" screen. This is normal. Step 8: The person who created the link gets a notification and has to approve you before you're let into the call. Once they do, you're in. To leave, just tap the red Leave button on the calling screen. Leaving doesn't end the call for everyone else, and it doesn't delete the link either.

Can Android Users Start or Host a FaceTime Call?

No. Only someone with an iPhone, iPad, or Mac can create a FaceTime link or start a call. If you're on Android, the only way to get onto a FaceTime call is for an Apple user to send you a link first.

Group FaceTime With Android and Windows Participants

FaceTime links stay active until the creator manually deletes them, so the same link can be reused for future calls. That makes it possible to set up an ongoing group chat with a mix of Apple and non-Apple users:

1. Create one FaceTime link from an Apple device.
2. Share that same link with everyone who needs to join, regardless of what device they use.
3. Keep the link instead of deleting it if you plan to reuse it.
4. Anyone with the link can join at any time, but non-Apple participants need to be approved each time they join.

FaceTime group calls support up to 32 participants in total, including anyone joining through the web link. The approval step happens every single time a non-Apple device joins; there's no way to whitelist someone permanently.

Do You Need an Apple Account to Join?

No. Joining a FaceTime call through the browser link doesn't require an Apple Account (what used to be called an Apple ID) or any sign-in at all. You just need the link and a name to display during the call.

What Android Participants Can (and Can't) Do

Once you're in a call from Android, you get a functional but stripped-down version of the FaceTime experience:

- You can: mute or unmute your mic, turn your camera on or off, switch between front and rear cameras, and leave the call whenever you want.
- You can't: share your own screen, use Memoji or camera filters, start SharePlay, or record the call using any built-in FaceTime feature. You can still view content the host shares with the group.

Is Your Call Private and Secure?

Yes. Apple applies end-to-end encryption to FaceTime calls regardless of which device joins, including sessions started through the web link. The browser version uses the same encryption approach as the native app, so there's no meaningful security trade-off for joining from Android instead of an iPhone.

Common Problems and How to Fix Them

- Camera or mic blocked: Go to Android Settings > Apps > Chrome (or your browser) > Permissions, and make sure Camera and Microphone are set to Allow. You can also tap the lock icon in the browser's address bar and reset site permissions there.
- Link doesn't open properly: This usually happens when you tap the link inside another app, like Instagram, Gmail, or WhatsApp's built-in browser. Copy the link and paste it directly into Chrome or Edge instead.
- Stuck on "Waiting to be let in": The host needs to have their FaceTime app open. If they've navigated away, they may have missed the join notification; ask them to check FaceTime directly.
- Link says the call has ended or isn't available: The person who created it may have deleted it. Ask them to send a fresh one.
- Audio cutting out with Bluetooth earbuds: Disconnect and reconnect your earbuds, or switch to your phone's speaker temporarily to confirm it's a Bluetooth issue rather than a connection problem.
- Video freezing or lagging: Toggle Wi-Fi off and back on, or switch between Wi-Fi and mobile data. If the problem persists, try switching browsers, since Chrome and Edge are the most reliably supported.

Is There a Real FaceTime App for Android? Watch Out for Fakes

No, and Apple hasn't signaled any plans to release one. FaceTime staying Apple-only is generally seen as part of what keeps people inside Apple's ecosystem, so a dedicated Android app is unlikely any time soon. Because of that gap, apps and APK files claiming to be "FaceTime for Android" show up periodically on unofficial download sites. These aren't from Apple and shouldn't be installed; they're a common way to distribute malware or steal personal data. The browser link method described above is the only legitimate way to use FaceTime on an Android device.

Best Alternatives if You Need to Start Calls Yourself

Since Android users can only join FaceTime calls and never start them, it's worth having a backup for situations where you need to initiate the call:

- Google Meet - works across Android, iOS, and browsers, and doesn't require the other person to have any specific app.
- WhatsApp Video - a solid option if the person you're calling already uses WhatsApp.
- Zoom - better suited for larger group calls or anything work-related.
- Signal - the strongest option if privacy is the main priority.

Frequently Asked Questions

Does joining a FaceTime call on Android cost anything?

No. Apple doesn't charge for it. It just uses your regular Wi-Fi or mobile data, so normal data charges from your carrier still apply if you're not on Wi-Fi.

Can I record a FaceTime call from my Android phone?

There's no built-in recording option in the browser version. You'd need to use your phone's screen recorder, and it's worth letting everyone on the call know beforehand.

Does this work on an Android tablet, not just a phone?

Yes. The same browser-based method works on any Android device, phone or tablet, as long as it's running a supported browser.

What if I don't have Chrome installed?

Microsoft Edge and Samsung Internet both work as reliable alternatives. Firefox isn't officially supported and may have permission or playback issues.

Will Apple ever release a real FaceTime app for Android?

There's no indication of that happening. Keeping FaceTime exclusive to Apple devices is generally viewed as a deliberate way to keep people invested in the Apple ecosystem.