

Social media: what's happening, what we can use: practical proposals

Since 2011, the % of adults 65+ who don't use the Internet declined to 29%.

Internet use by retired adults increased to 67% in 2019*

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HOW TO GUIDE: Social media choosing and using

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What social media most suits our audience?*

BABY BOOMERS, born 1946 - 1964, aged 56-74, 21% of UK: 14.3 million of them.







WhatsApp, 2B users

N.B. Facebook owns WhatsApp



Pinterest – mainly female, aged 25-44 14% of those aged 65+ use it but it's growing and is useful as a resource for u3a groups

More people LOOK at social media than POST on it. Consider how many visitors you get? No. of Followers? e.g. my experience = 2/3 posts a week = 500 views a week



Twitter: 330M globally; 15% users 55+; **too few 65+ to count**



Instagram: 80% follow a brand 75% 18–24yrs; **8% of 65+.**

^{*}Source: SocialMediaTrends2020 Report, Hootsuite, Jan 2021



Why focus on Facebook? 44.84 million UK people use it *

- 66% of UK (67,886,011) has a Facebook account
- UK users aged 65+ grew from 4% in 2019 to <u>9%</u>
- 52% of users are women, 48% are men
- 44% of users visit it every day

June 27, 2017: MENLO PARK, Calif.

Facebook now has more users than the population of the US, China and Brazil -- combined.

CEO Mark Zuckerberg said that the social network just eclipsed 2 billion active users.

"We still have a long way to go to connect everyone," he added, ".. we must bring people closer together."



PROs

and CONs

The most popular social platform

Massive "reach" in right demographic

FREE, versatile – e.g. Facebook Rooms

Improved security – 2 factor security

Integrates with many other media

Works on all devices

Lots of online help & support groups

Constantly adding functions, e.g.

Facebook Rooms for free time-unlimited Videoconferencing

REPUTATION:

Fears about misuse of personal data

Belief that it's all very trivial, mainly for people who want to share personal details of their lives and meals!

Belief that it's difficult to use or set up

Lack of knowledge about it

- Group or Page?
- Facebook Ads?
- Facebook Rooms?
- Facebook 360 photos?
- How to secure an account?







1. Set up a Facebook profile, a page or a group?

A Facebook Profile: is for individuals, who may invite up to 5000 friends.

If you worry about your data, provide the minimum and even falsify your DOB if you can remember the fake one; if you get locked out of your account, they may ask you for it.

But add a photo or avatar: it makes it much easier for prospective Friends to identify you.

WHY? – you can join groups of likeminded people, find info, join events, use Facebook resources

A Facebook Page: is about a cause, a person (Fan Page), a product that may be of interest.

The people who visit have a common interest – say, in u3a day! A page is always public; anyone who LIKES a page is subscribed to it. You can link pages to groups or profiles. An Admin can delete a Page easily.

A Facebook Group is a set of people with a common interest that form a community, e.g. u3a. To join a group, people need to be either invited or approved. If they want to join, you can ask them questions. There are 2 privacy options: public or private. You can HIDE a private group.



Facebook groups

Public: anyone can see who's in the group and what they post.

Private: only **members** can see who's in the group and what they post.

Only **private** groups can be **hidden** – i.e. they can't be <u>found</u> by anyone but members. Invisible.

To change to Hidden:

go to **News feed**, click **Groups**, select your group, click **Settings** then **Hide Group**, select **Hidden** then <u>Save</u>.

Why not go <u>public</u>?

Less work for your Admins, no need for Moderators, people can be Blocked/prevented from posting by Admins, and you can change the nature of the group if being public doesn't work..

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How do we decide what content to create and update?

How do we **prioritise** content?

How do we decide what to communicate?

How do we find out our audiences' needs?

How do we know we've got it right?





Aims for your Facebook Group/Page – and how to meet them

What you might want to do

How you might do it via Facebook: what you do sets the tone, so Learn Laugh Live? Post a video of interest each week...?

1. Recruit new members for groups

Use Facebook Ads – <u>very</u> cost-effective advertising – to attract Appropriate people* to your (open) page or group

2. Give learning opportunities online

Advertise open events/competitions/silly videos on your group or page: subscribe to relevant "feeds" from Pinterest, other Groups,

Other organizations & news stories — put relevant news here.

3. Engage members so they want to contribute

Pose a question relevant to a post and ask for views, e.g. an article about Ageing may recommend a vegan diet....? SurveyMonkey can be auto-linked to Facebook.

4. Encourage people to share laughs

Plan regular events, ideally weekly e.g. broadcast your monthly meeting, ask Grp Leaders each to do an update at least once a year...

5. Respond to members' views

Post your newsletter automatically (via Mailchimp) to your social media and website.

6. Share & publicise information

Use Fbk Rooms to host a FACEBOOK LIVE event for max 50 people Can advertise on Eventbrite.*

7. Run events ideally live

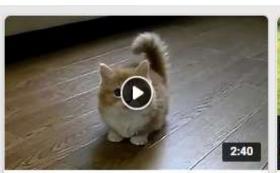


Learn Laugh Live

Almost half of all original YouTube videos are of people's pets, and around 26 billion views are just for cats, making them the single most popular category. Some cats have even become famous, and earn millions of pounds after their owners posted their pictures online.*



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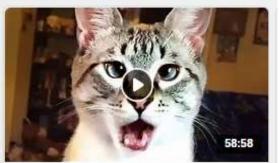
TOP 10 BEST CAT VIDEOS OF ALL TIME!

16M views · Sep 6, 2012 YouTube · WatchTheDaily



Hilarious Cat Viral Videos | Ultimate Cat Compilation 2019

21M views · May 7, 2019 YouTube › Newsflare



THE BEST CUTE AND FUNNY CAT VIDEOS OF 2019!

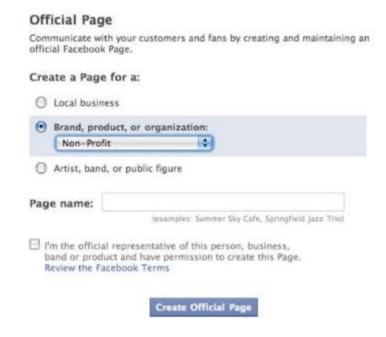
6.1M views - Dec 30, 2019 YouTube - Rufus *Why cat clips rule the internet - CBBC Newsround www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/33848745



How to set up a Facebook page

- 1. Appoint 2 Facebook Admins who have personal Facebook accounts.
- Go to <u>Facebook's Create a Page</u> section. Choose "Company, Organisation or Institution", NOT "Community or Cause."
- 3. Upload a logo or image a small and a large.
- **4. Fill out details** short description of your group, link to website.
- **5.** Add some interesting & if possible, USEFUL content. Introduce yourself invite others to tell a story or post a picture. Use photos of people
- **6. Invite people to join in:** you <u>can</u> import a group with a CSV file (with permission)
- 7. Seek out other relevant pages —outside Facebook, sign up for relevant news that will bring content to you that you might share on Facebook.
- 8. Update the page often at least weekly, ideally daily

Recommended general photo upload size is 1,200 x 630 pixels, max 8MB Facebook will automatically resize & format your photos once you upload them.



Find Images:

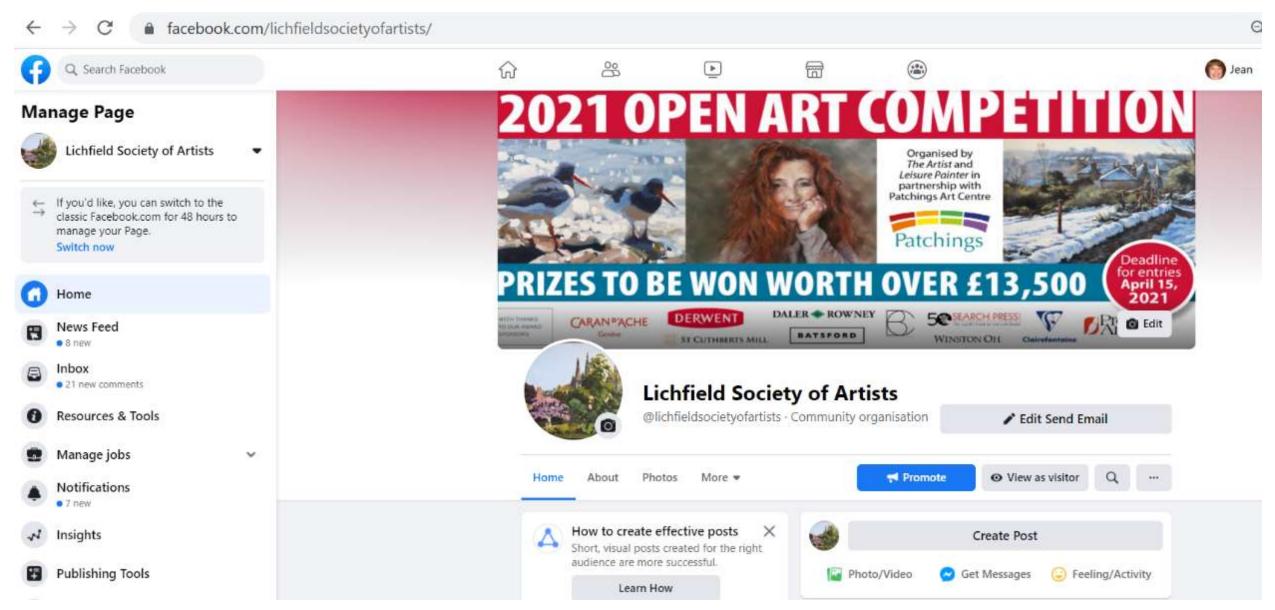
Small square web logo



Page-top image 1640 x 856 pixels, rectangular Upload limit is 8MB

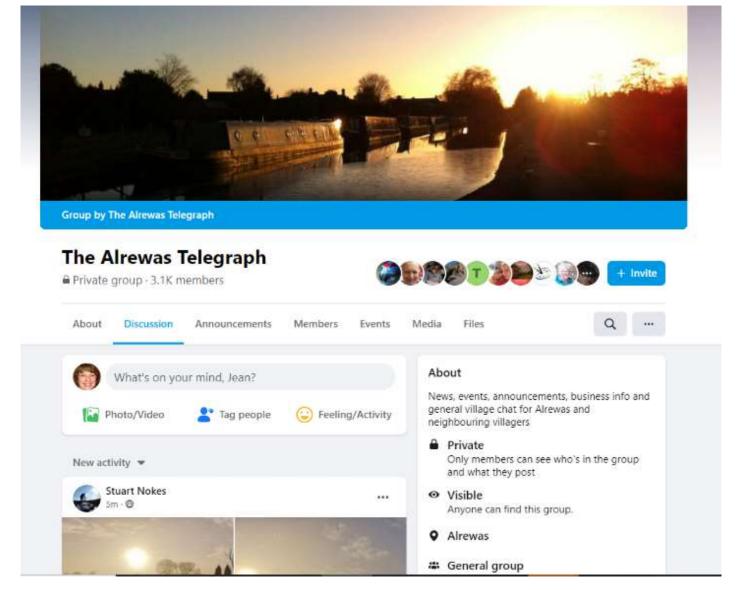


A Page about the Lichfield Society of Artists



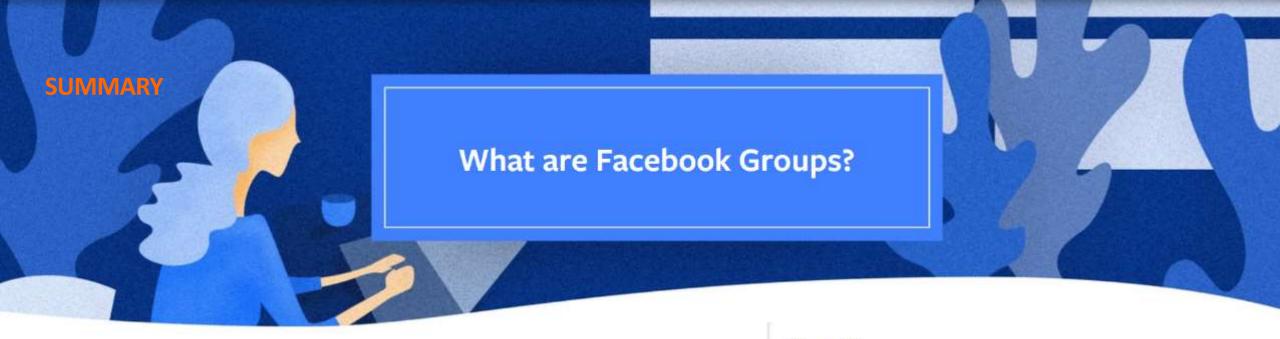


Example of a Group: "The Alrewas Telegraph" posts news about the village of Alrewas



To set up a group you need to –

- Be clear about its purpose
- Decide if it's public, private or hidden
- Have at least 2 Admins
- Have appropriate content & images ready
- Have supporters who'll post
- Have Moderators?
- Think about how you'll keep it going: plan regular events, e.g. monthly mtg, ask GLs each to do an update..



- Any Facebook user can create a Group **public, private, secret**
- You need 2 admins, and people keen to join: you can import a list of email addresses using a CSV file
- 2 images: small web logo (constant), & header image (change): 1640 x 856 pixels, rectangular. Upload limit is 8MB
- Create events, upload pictures/video & share files in a Group
- To delete a group, either remove all members, or "delete group"

About this group

News, events, announcements, business info and general village chat for Alrewas and neighbouring villagers

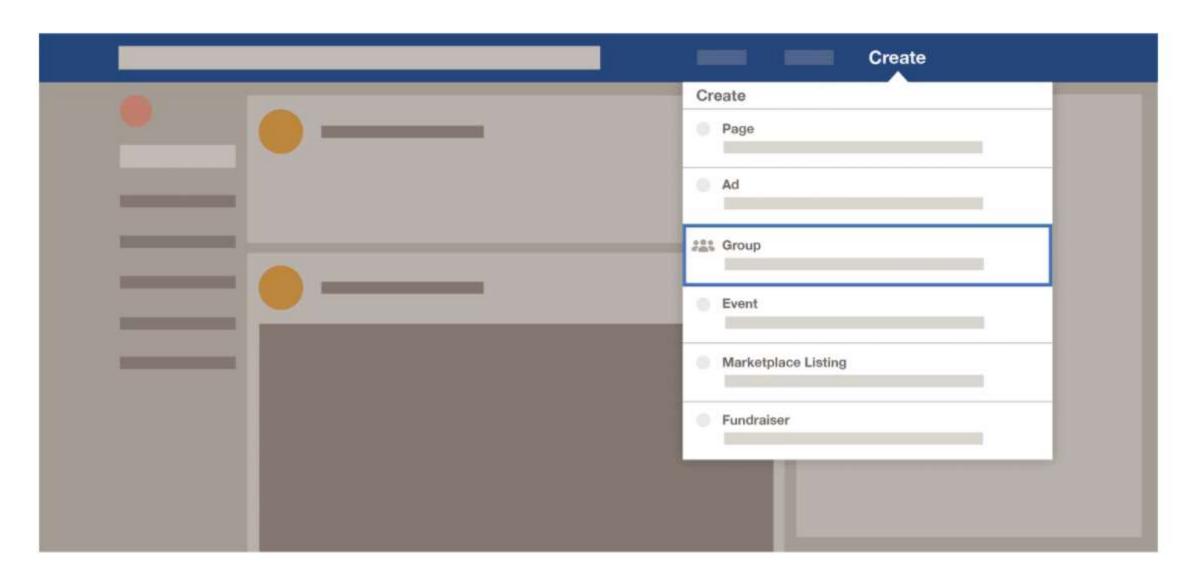
Private

Only members can see who's in the group and what they post

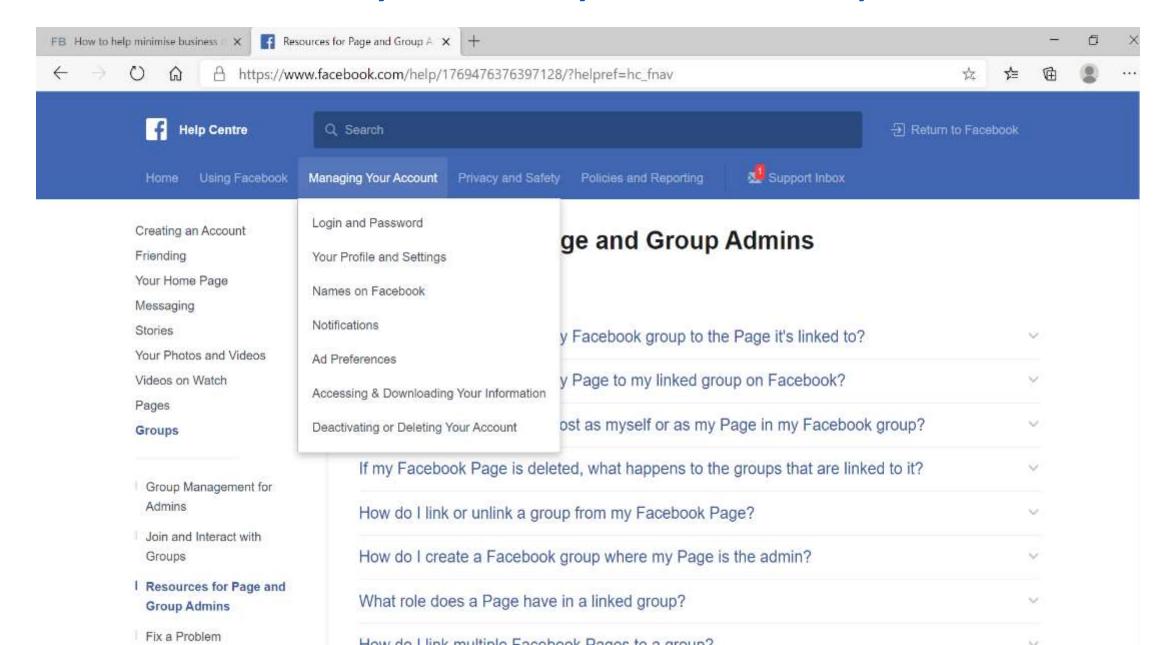
- Visible
 Anyone can find this group.
- Alrewas
- General group
- History Group created on 10 November 2013 See More

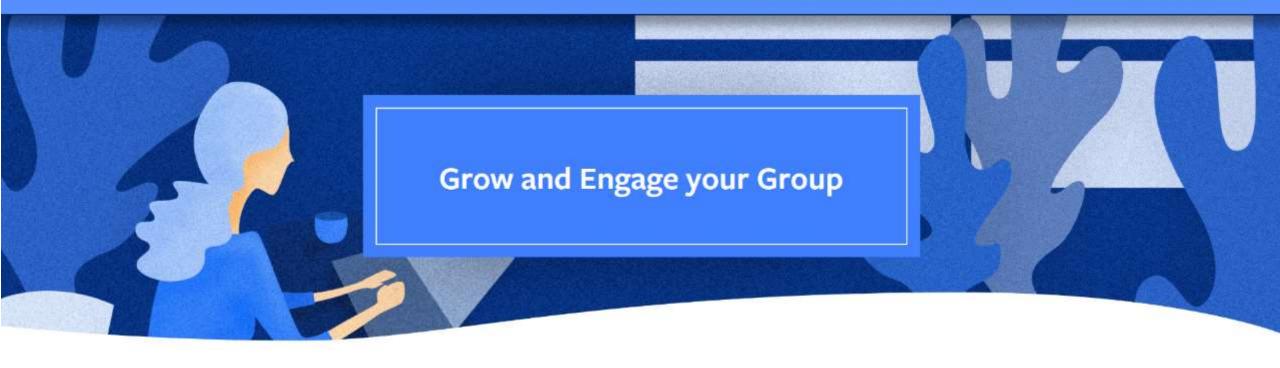
How to create a Facebook Group

From your Facebook homepage, click Create in the upper right and select Group.



Facebook has masses of easy to read, easy to find online help

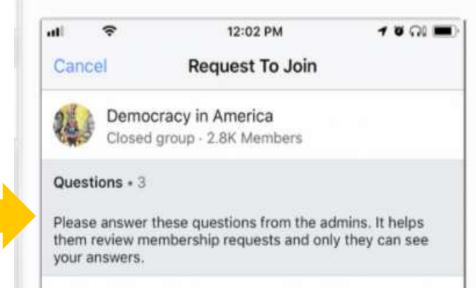




- Ask members to follow the group and share posts on their personal pages, or share posts with other groups
- Use EMOTICONS/emojis boost Likes 57%! 🙂 😂 😛 📦
- Visual posts will get more attention: beware upload limit of 8MB
- USE VISUALS: animated GIFs, great images, video:

VIDEO is forecast be 82% of all online content, by 2022

N.B. You can ask people questions when they ask to join



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Content best practice: 70% home-grown, 20% shared (from others), 10% promotional

- Gather opinion on a topic, create polls, e.g. to create news stories
- Get to know your members it's about **people**: ask Group Leaders to "guest" on your page, post about their group.
- Run an event*: from news feed, click Events
- Run regular features joke of the week? Photo of the week?
- Run quizzes and events on your page: look at Facebook Rooms
- Recruit members <u>if it's open to non-members!</u>

CREATE A POLL:

Log into your account
Go to your news feed.
Click "Groups" on the left.
Choose your group
Or make a new one!
Go to "Write something..."
Click, then click "Poll"

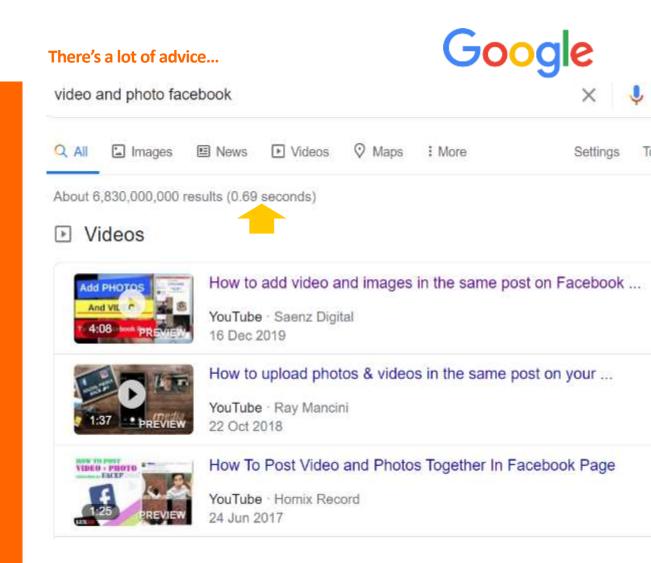


^{*} To run a recurring event, you need a Page.



Engage your group with video

- You can Publish your video on Facebook*
- Use great visuals & create captions **
- Your video's name = descriptive, interesting
- Keep video short. i.e. **3 minutes or less**
- Create video in a square format
- Try live videos. They get more views.
- There are many free video editing programs



^{*} You might "lose" them if you link to YouTube. ** 85% of viewers don't turn on sound. Google to find out what to do.

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Creating a Facebook Messenger Room* (rival to Zoom?)

"Messenger Rooms" is a feature inside Facebook Messenger which lets any Facebook user host audio and video calls with up to 50 others simultaneously. For as long as you like. FREE.

Join meetings using a link from Messenger - AND you don't have to have a Facebook account.

To create a room from your phone, download the latest Facebook & Messenger mobile apps.

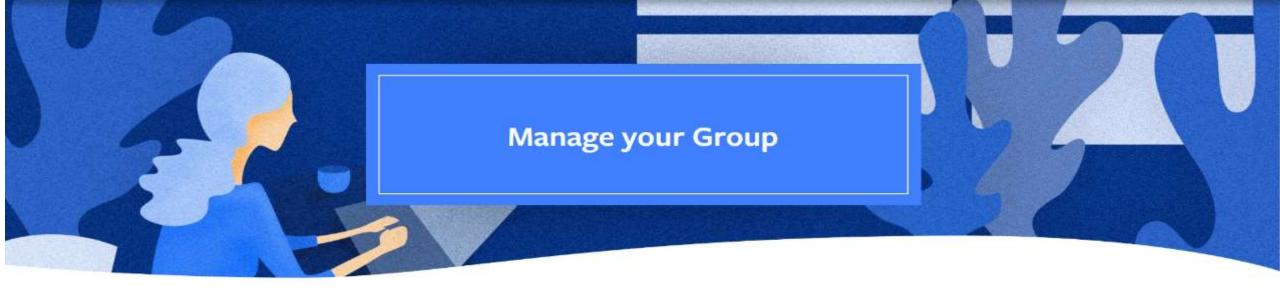
- 1. Open the Messenger app.
- 2. Tap the **People** tab at the bottom right of the screen.
- **3.** Tap **Create a Room**, and select the people who you want to join.

Just share the link and anyone can join, even without a Fbook account.

You can join a room from your phone or computer -- no need to download anything.



^{*} Rooms launched in April 2020: Facebook will increase the number of users supported. Currently 50.



Group rules

Admins can establish up to 10 specific group rules to foster a civil and respectful environment where productive conversations can happen. You can post rules in the Group to give everyone clear expectations for acceptable behavior.



Rules are also displayed when a member requests to join the group, for those groups that use membership questions to help vet and approve new members. Group admins can either use the example rules or create their own.

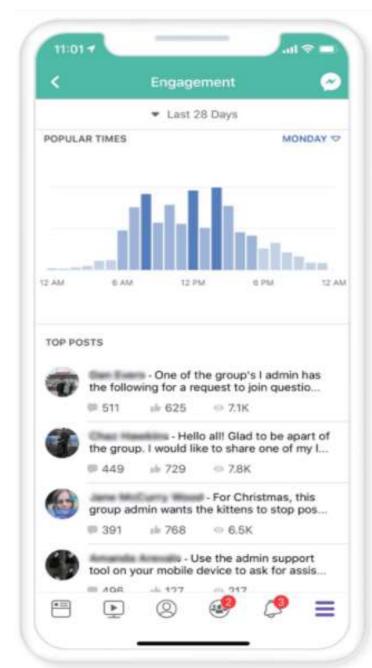
Click **INSIGHTS**

at the top of your page to find out how it's doing – what time of day people tend to post, how many page views there've been, etc.

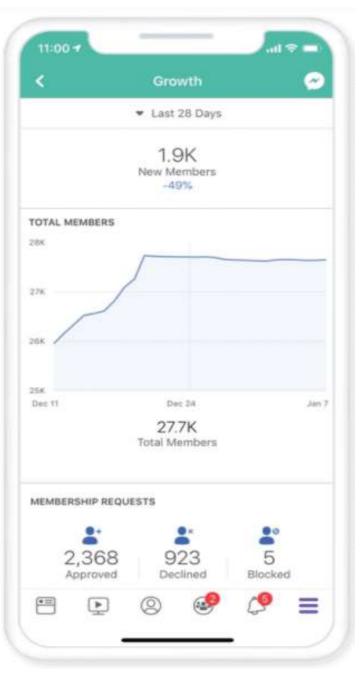
Admins can remove a group member's ability to comment, if they need to

– do you need moderators?











HELP!!

Before you go to the extreme of asking your children..



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Anything you want to do on Facebook - ask Facebook.

There are even Facebook Help groups: you can post queries.

If you have a problem, check your original account settings.

If Facebook doesn't help, Google will — it's social media.

N.B. Beware, much help is American, e.g.

The Ridiculously Awesome Guide to Facebook Live | WordStream

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