

Announcement: Matrix 2.0

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Lösung (öffentlich)

The changeover will take place on 21-JAN-2025 between 07:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Performance

In Matrix 2.0, the app start, login and synchronization take place directly without delay thanks to "Simplified Sliding Sync". With this technology, only the information currently required is loaded from the server. This saves resources and makes use independent of how many rooms users are in - even after long breaks of weeks or months, no waiting time is required.

All Element Desktop/Web and Element X users benefit from the increased speed.

Next generation login

Matrix is a communication protocol, not an authentication protocol, which is why the previous interfaces for authentication are being replaced by the secure and mature industry standard OpenID Connect. This means that Matrix 2.0 is open to the entire ecosystem of OpenID Identity Providers, which enables the use of modern login methods - such as [1]Shibboleth at TU Dresden. Users no longer have to entrust their password to the Matrix clients, but only to the TU Dresden login server. In addition, two-factor authentication increases the security of the login.

The biggest advantage is the new QR login. To complete login and set up end-to-end encryption, all you need to do is scan a QR code from an existing session. There is no need to enter the Matrix home server, login name and security key.

All Element Desktop/Web and Element X users benefit from the QR login.

Encrypted group calls with Element Call

For group calls, Matrix previously relied on external solutions such as Jitsi, which could not use Matrix's end-to-end encryption or its other functionalities. The new Element Call natively integrated into Matrix 2.0 offers end-to-end encrypted voice and video calls for groups, but can also be used in 1:1 calls. If an Element Call is started in an encrypted room, so is the entire conference. In addition, the underlying MatrixRTC specification enables future interoperability with other video conferencing solutions such as BigBlueButton.

All Element Web and Element X users benefit from Element Call.

Invisible Encryption Several innovations in the technical implementation of encryption reduce the most common warnings in the Element clients. New mobile client Element X for Android and iOS has been developed from scratch and supports the new features of Matrix 2.0. It also offers a revised user interface. The previous mobile Element clients can still be used until the features still missing in Element X (such as Spaces and Threads) are added.

[1] <https://faq.tickets.tu-dresden.de/v/ItemID=1183>