

# Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Step Up your Game and Save your Ass a Pounding - Anti Skype Thread](#)

**D??M!** - May 14, 2013, 12:11 pm

Honestly, a year or two ago I'd understand why you guys still use Skype, it wasn't fucking obvious what was going on back then, but now... Why do you guys choose to use a chat service that is blatantly logged? It's well, well, well known that Microsoft logs and can read absolutely ANYTHING you send over Skype, and Microsoft is also very willing to work with any law enforcement agency who may ask for help. Microsoft isn't like your ISP or your Hosting Provider. Your privacy, they don't give a rats ass about it... If the FBI asks them to jump, they'll ask how high.

Step 1:

[Read this Article](#) about Skype logging your conversations and snooping around.

[Then you can read this](#) about how the FBI spied on Kim Dotcom and his associated for YEARS, Skype being a major role in that.

Step 2:

Hopefully you guys are convinced that Skype is bad news now, can only lead to issues for you... So what do we do? We fucking start using Jabber!

Download Pidgin: <http://www.pidgin.im/>

Pidgin is a Universal Chat client that allows you to chat over numerous protocols, such as: AIM Bonjour Gadu-Gadu Google Talk Groupwise ICQ IRC MSN MXit MySpaceIM SILC SIMPLE Sametime XMPP Yahoo! Zephyr.

The only one of these we really care about is XMPP, although Pidgin is a great way to combine all your chat clients into one if you'd like.

Step 3:

Download and Install

Once you have Pidgin downloaded and installed, setting up Jabber is quite simple. When creating a jabber account, you choose your own username, then you use another server's Jabber services to communicate. For example I my full Jabber name could be BV1@Jabber.org. However, people believe Jabber.org could potentially be a risk to use, so there are other sites you can sign up with, which you'll see in detail below.

Step 4:

Open your Pidgin Client, on the top go to Accounts > Manage Accounts and click Add.

This is where you create your account. For your username, use whatever you want. For the domain... You can research your own to use, but I personally recommend thesecure.biz. Choose your password, then make sure to click the create this new account on the server box.

Step 5:

With your account now created, simply go back to Manage Accounts, ensure it's enabled with the password entered, and you'll be able to log in. I do recommend editing your account to add a proxy. Tunnel through a server, use socks5, or just use TOR, it's always best not to connect using your own connection.

Step 6:

Harden your security. Jabber by its self is good, but Jabber + OTR (Off The Record) is exponentially better. It's simply an addon for Pidgin that boasts the following features:

Encryption - No one else can read your instant messages.

Authentication - You are assured the correspondent is who you think it is.

Deniability - The messages you send do not have digital signatures that are checkable by a third party. Anyone can forge messages after a conversation to make them look like they came from you. However, during a conversation, your correspondent is assured the messages he sees are authentic and unmodified.

Perfect forward secrecy - If you lose control of your private keys, no previous conversation is compromised.

You may obtain OTR here: <http://www.cypherpunks.ca/otr/>

Once downloaded and installed, simply open Jabber, press CTRL+U, and ensure the OTR plugin is enabled.

With everything above, you have a pretty rock solid chat client that's not going to get you fucked over in the long run. The transition from Skype to Jabber won't be easy, but if everyone makes an account then encourages their friends to communicate with them there, rather than on Skype, I think a fair amount of you will be saved in the future.

Best of luck - Be smart

Alternatively, view for more info: <https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=2965453>

**SIM-82498** - May 14, 2013, 12:13 pm

I used to be oblivious to the fact that Skype was so vulnerable, so I switched to Jabber.

**adampelletgun** - May 14, 2013, 12:15 pm

Thanks for the thread.

Hopefully members abandon Skype.

**Leg?nd** - May 14, 2013, 12:15 pm

To activate OTR, you must go to tools > plugins and tick the OTR box.

<http://prntscr.com/14wt6m>

<http://prntscr.com/14wtai>

**D??M!** - May 14, 2013, 12:16 pm

(May 14, 2013 12:15 PM)Leg?nd Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) To activate OTR, you must go to tools > plugins and tick the OTR box.

<http://prntscr.com/14wt6m>

<http://prntscr.com/14wtai>

Forgot about that, will add it to OP, thanks.

**Dr.Penguin** - May 14, 2013, 12:16 pm

Considering I don't do anything illegal on Skype I don't see why this would effect me.

**Michael** - May 14, 2013, 12:16 pm

I actually was looking for something like this.

Good helpful thread.

**D??M!** - May 14, 2013, 12:19 pm

(May 14, 2013 12:16 PM)Dr.Penguin Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Considering I don't do anything illegal on Skype I don't see why this would effect me.

Privacy is privacy. If you read the first article, HTTPS links sent via skype were being access by Microsoft IP's, they even tried one of the logins they captured being sent.

+ with the uprise of Skype Jacking, it saves you from the inevitable issues that are sure to come.

**NoodleBot™** - May 14, 2013, 12:20 pm

Good article you posted, the one that came out today. Has a lot of good information. I had pidgin but I hate the fact of having to transfer everyone over, some people won't like to use other clients etc.

**Superior1** - May 14, 2013, 12:20 pm

I rarely use Skype, plus I'm no blackhat so i don't need to hide what i say from police.

But i do agree Skype is terribly vulnerable, and nobody should be using it because of its vulnerabilities users could be at risk.

**D??M!** - May 14, 2013, 12:22 pm

(May 14, 2013 12:20 PM).htaccess Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I rarely use Skype, plus I'm no blackhat so i don't need to hide what i say from police.

But i do agree Skype is terribly vulnerable, and nobody should be using it because of its vulnerabilities users could be at risk.

Skype has a ton of nice features, just so many security risks.

If you set up a Teamspeak Server and user Jabber, its basically the same. Secure voice communication through my own servers with secure text communication through jabber.

**Leg?nd** - May 14, 2013, 12:23 pm

(May 14, 2013 12:22 PM)BV1 ? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Skype has a ton of nice features, just so many security risks.

If you set up a Teamspeak Server and user Jabber, its basically the same. Secure voice communication through my own servers with secure text communication through jabber.

Not to mention the perk that you can make your own jabber server and have for example legend@legendhf.com

**Racr** - May 14, 2013, 12:23 pm

Thanks for sharing this, I've started using it and hope I can get my friends to switch over.

**D??M!** - May 14, 2013, 12:24 pm

Came across a post by another user earlier today on the same topic, with a simplified guide:

(May 14, 2013 08:42 AM)Anarchy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Also, start using an XMPP service instead. Specifically exploit.im as accounts on it are completely un-jackable.

Steps to set it up:

Install [Pidgin](#) XMPP client

Click "Add account"

Under protocol select "XMPP"

In domain type "exploit.im" and under username and password select the username and password you want to sign up with.

Select "Create new account on this server" Spoiler [\(Click to View\)](#)

And you're done, simply connect to the server and you'll be registered.

**IIMachavelli** - May 14, 2013, 12:25 pm

I created a jabber tutorial like 6-7 months <https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=2965453> but everyone just ignored it. I guess Skype was better back then.

**D??M!** - May 14, 2013, 12:27 pm

(May 14, 2013 12:25 PM)IIMachavelli Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I created a jabber tutorial like 6-7 months <https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=2965453> but everyone just ignored it. I guess Skype was better back then.

Even though you placed the topic in the right section, I can't say how many people actually read that section. Your guide is better than mine though, I'll link to it in my OP.

**Anarchy** - May 14, 2013, 12:31 pm

(May 14, 2013 12:24 PM)BV1 ? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Came across a post by another user earlier today on the same topic, with a simplified guide:

Thanks for mentioning my post, I highly agree with the thread but most people who use Skype are still going to use it because it's what they're used to. People have been trying for months to get people to switch to XMPP yet 99% of the supposed 'expert blackhats' on here still use it. To be honest I say let the people who are stupid enough to use Skype get an ass pounding.

**redpois0n** - May 14, 2013, 12:40 pm

Really nice thread and this is exactly what is needed.

**IIMachavelli** - May 14, 2013, 1:05 pm

(May 14, 2013 12:27 PM)BV1 ? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Even though you placed the topic in the right section, I can't say how many people actually read that section. Your guide is better than mine though, I'll link to it in my OP.

Thanks BV1, you didn't really need to post my thread but thank for doing it anyway. If you like it just copy and paste mine.

**betamonkey** - May 14, 2013, 1:08 pm

You forgot to mention you can require Pidgin to tunnel through TOR for any XMPP/IM servers you connect to. This way you are always using tor for it and always using encryption for your conversations. You can't really ask for much more.

In terms of Skype, people must really like it's aesthetics and such because for all that eye candy it has to offer (which I personally think sucks), it completely screws you in terms of operational security and is probably the WORST choice of many dozens of communication platforms you could choose. But I say let everyone who wants to use Skype just use it for their leet trash booters, and they can suffer the consequences later. All just because they wanted all those bells and whistles like little kids.

**Sky** - May 14, 2013, 1:12 pm

Vouch for BV1 and this thread. Probably the most useful thing most members will read today, and hopefully it will save 50 more "My Skype was hacked" threads.

~Arcane ?

**Modem Down** - May 14, 2013, 1:13 pm

Trying to get people on Hf to use jabber lol. good luck!

**Leg?nd** - May 14, 2013, 1:14 pm

(May 14, 2013 01:08 PM)betamonkey Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You forgot to mention you can require Pidgin to tunnel through TOR for any XMPP/IM servers you connect to. This way you are always using tor for it and always using encryption for your conversations. You can't really ask for much more.

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Since we're spoonfeeding, refer to Starfox's method to hide skype ip but use it with pidgin.

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=3427905>

**betamonkey** - May 14, 2013, 1:20 pm

(May 14, 2013 01:14 PM)Leg?nd Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Since we're spoonfeeding, refer to Starfox's method to hide skype ip but use it with pidgin.

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=3427905>

Well I didn't mean to imply Skype didn't support proxies itself, but along with all the other benefits XMPP/Pidgin offers in terms of security, it makes Skype look like a giant honeypot, which a side feature of letting legitimate people communicate with each other.

Skype fucking sucks. Why don't booter owners just install a landline to their house and do live phone support? Might as well.

**phreaker** - May 14, 2013, 1:32 pm

Nice post. I personally do not use skype anymore ?

**Automatic Coding** - May 15, 2013, 7:34 pm

I'd do this if more people I spoke to also did this...

...and when my one year skype number subscription runs out.

**Darkwin** - May 15, 2013, 7:37 pm

I've been trying to say this for YEARS literally YEARS -.- but everyone i know was on Skype so i had to install it. Anyways feel free to add me on Jabber: dkwn@jabber.ccc.de

**Unacknowledged** - May 15, 2013, 7:40 pm

I've always hated Skype, but I never had any other way to contact my friends. There's no other way for me to convince them to switch to Jabber, I don't send malicious files or "hack talk" over Skype, but people like to jack Skypes. Hard to choose.

**Savages** - May 15, 2013, 8:39 pm

(May 14, 2013 01:32 PM)phreaker Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Deniability - The messages you send do not have digital signatures that are checkable by a third party. Anyone can forge messages after a conversation to make them look like they came from you. However, during a conversation, your correspondent is assured the messages he sees are authentic and unmodified.

That will pose problems, example:

SWIM is a UB3R, with 400+ Reputation Nice clean profile few groups few awards  
Tommy is also ub3r 95 reputation Clean profile (Not known) few awards 0 groups

SWIM scams Tommy for \$400.

Tells Tommy to go first, Tommy does, and get's scammed.

Tommy post's scam report, SWIM claims Anyone can forge messages after a conversation to make them look like they came from me, non-legit scam report?

**betamonkey** - May 15, 2013, 9:39 pm

(May 15, 2013 08:39 PM)Glory Boyz Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That will pose problems, example:

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Sounds great in theory but in practice, will almost never be done, especially not for some petty hackforums deal.

**Savages** - May 15, 2013, 9:57 pm

(May 15, 2013 09:39 PM)betamonkey Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Sounds great in theory but in practice, will almost never be done, especially not for some petty hackforums deal.

Oh you never know the actions of some members are vast.

**Falconw0w** - May 16, 2013, 12:00 am

Oh wait just an elaboration of this: <https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=3432063>

**SimplyTran** - May 16, 2013, 12:22 am

(May 14, 2013 12:22 PM)BV1 ? Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Skype has a ton of nice features, just so many security risks.

If you set up a Teamspeak Server and user Jabber, its basically the same. Secure voice communication through my own servers with secure text communication through jabber.

You text communicate over TeamSpeak too.

**Examplesze** - May 16, 2013, 12:52 am

Are teamspeaks logged if you host it on a vps

**SimplyTran** - May 16, 2013, 1:10 am

(May 16, 2013 12:52 AM)Ex?mpl?s Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Are teamspeaks logged if you host it on a vps  
But it'll be on your personal VPS though? No?

**redpois0n** - May 16, 2013, 1:23 am

(May 16, 2013 12:52 AM)Ex?mpl?s Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Are teamspeaks logged if you host it on a vps  
It's your personal.. You decide what it will do. ?

**tr0nix** - May 16, 2013, 2:48 am

Thanks for the thread. I have added my XMPP in my usertitle aswell.

**DaFreak** - May 16, 2013, 9:07 am

Thanks for letting us know. I always knew that messages were logged..

**D??M!** - May 16, 2013, 11:56 am

(May 16, 2013 12:52 AM)Ex?mpl?s Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Are teamspeaks logged if you host it on a vps  
Depends. If you buy it through a Teamspeak provider like Gameservers or TypeFrag, you won't

always have full control over all the options. I have owned a server from Gameservers before, and they didn't give you full control over what was logged (fortunately it was set to close to nothing). If you install TS onto your own VPS, you of course have full control of all options.

What's also nice is, you're gonna pay \$20 a month for a decent sized Teamspeak from any provider, but if you host it yourself, you can get a license from Teamspeak for free as long as you're a non profit (it's to encourage small gaming clans to still be able to have TS). So it's \$20 for a 50 slot somewhere vs free for a 999 slot hosted on your own server.

**\$ zS \$** - May 18, 2013, 11:50 am

Take the initiative guys, I don't like dealing over Skype but I have to because of hte members.

**C0D3XDUDE** - August 6, 2013, 12:58 pm

great post , i didnt know this was all going on even tho im clean i still prefer my private covos , thx big time

**vlax** - August 6, 2013, 1:16 pm

Skype is obviously logged. Everything we do on the internet in my opinion is logged.