

Forum: [Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Convo Pruning](#)

Omniscient - October 7, 2019, 11:25 am

We already prune old PMs. Doing about 1m rows now. It's just part of policy and we actually have more PMs than posts on HF. The expectation is that Convo will replace PMs eventually. But given the nature of Convo I think we should set a standard for pruning as well.

I'd like to ask members what they think is reasonable time to prune/delete messages. Realize when I say prune I do mean delete and that once deleted these messages cannot be recovered. It's also unreasonable to believe we will never prune them. Tables can get huge causing resource problems and eventually slowness of the feature.

Also by pruning it allows for slightly more privacy. Your data has limited shelf-life and thus you might feel more secure and private in that way. I suggest 60 days but I'm getting feedback on this in case members feel that's too short or heck, maybe too long. I think the minimum I would do is 30 days and max 1 year. We have to monitor usage. If we do fully replace the PM system then the table is likely going to explode in size.

Thank you for your feedback.

MavenGradle - October 7, 2019, 11:29 am

What are your current rules in regards to data retention for private messages? As in, how long do you currently keep private messages available or is it just something you do every once in a while without any time set to said operation?

I'd be inclined to say that anywhere between 6 to 12 months of data retention when it comes to convo's would seem reasonable. It might be harder on the database, but I'm pretty sure deals are being done using convo's and those usually happen with multiple messages instead of one or two pm's.

Varane - October 7, 2019, 11:32 am

I think 6-12 months is perfect, anything shorter wouldn't make sense especially when it comes to the marketplace.

Xerotic - October 7, 2019, 11:32 am

IMO they should stay as long as your are willing to keep them. That is one of the benefits of having conversational style messages - you can quickly reference if you've talked to a member in the past the moment you start a convo with them.

flavoral - October 7, 2019, 11:48 am

1 year is the best option in my opinion when it comes to marketplace things.

Omniscient - October 7, 2019, 11:52 am

Current pruning policies for PM's are in the [Help Docs](#).

<https://hackforums.net/misc.php?action=help&hid=24>

SIM-1729678 - October 7, 2019, 11:52 am

60 days seems fine to me. Honestly, who is going to look back 60+ days for a specific message?

MavenGradle - October 7, 2019, 11:54 am

(Oct 7, 2019 11:52 AM)ScreemS Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 60 days seems fine to me. Honestly, who is going to look back 60+ days for a specific message?

Someone who got scammed and asked to wait a couple more weeks for the goods to be delivered to their doorstep, I'd think. Hopefully not, I mean 60 days is an awfully long time to wait and not open a dispute but people are naïve like that sometimes.

Orca - October 7, 2019, 11:57 am

Users should be able to choose on a per conversation basis

SIM-1729678 - October 7, 2019, 11:58 am

(Oct 7, 2019 11:54 AM)MavenGradle Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Someone who got scammed and asked to wait a couple more weeks for the goods to be delivered to their doorstep, I'd think. Hopefully not, I mean 60 days is an awfully long time to wait and not open a dispute but people are naïve like that sometimes.

True. Also, without a search function it would be a hell searching in a year worth of messages.

flavoral - October 7, 2019, 12:05 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 11:52 AM)ScreemS Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 60 days seems fine to me. Honestly, who is going to look back 60+ days for a specific message?

Marketplace deals. It's important to have track of order process and the back-and-forth you have with the customer in case of any issues to have proof of convo and details discussed with the customer .

I'm not sure if planned or possible, but as it's possible to have multiple convos with same user, maybe an "auto create convo" button on a contract after it get accepted where it starts a convo with the # of the contract as convo name as reference, and you can export the convo after finishing the deal and contract get marked as complete.

SIM-1729678 - October 7, 2019, 12:13 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 12:05 PM)flavoral Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Marketplace deals. It's important to have track of order process and the back-and-forth you have with the customer in case of any issues to have proof of convo and details discussed with the customer .

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If I am right: the PayPal chargeback limit is 180 days right?..

(I can't think of any other problem that is longer than 60 days)

What if the convo limit would be put on 190 days, would that help?

I know that there is always an option that a method costs 3 months to perform, but then it would be stupid if you don't log your chats.

Sheep - October 7, 2019, 12:15 pm

An option to download your conversations as a file, or to permanently save (perhaps with a fee if need be) should be available

Lavish Living - October 7, 2019, 12:17 pm

Would we lose our convo # too?

For example, my convo with you is on <https://hackforums.net/convo.php?id=6>

id=6, that's some OG shit. I also have id=4 and 5. If pruning doesn't delete the entire convo/reset the number then idc really. I voted a year just cuz, but that is kinda a long time.

TheChaosKiller - October 7, 2019, 12:20 pm

6 months to a year would be perfect in my opinion.

Kill Joy - October 7, 2019, 12:28 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 12:17 PM)Lavish Living Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Would we lose our convo # too?

For example, my convo with you is on <https://hackforums.net/convo.php?id=6>

id=6, that's some OG Clay Davis. I also have id=4 and 5. If pruning doesn't delete the entire convo/reset the number then idc really. I voted a year just cuz, but that is kinda a long time. Get shit on because I have id=3 :)

I voted for 6 months by the way. 6-12 months is definitely ideal. Reason being is it would be nice to have references and proof in the event of scams. After 6-12 months it's safe to say there is no risk of a scam happening for a deal.

Lavish Living - October 7, 2019, 12:30 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 12:28 PM)Kill Joy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Get Clay Davis on because I have id=3 :)

I voted for 6 months by the way. 6-12 months is definitely ideal. Reason being is it would be nice to have references and proof in the event of scams. After 6-12 months it's safe to say there is no risk of a scam happening for a deal.

In a few years any single digits will be worth \$\$\$\$.

I have 3 of em.

flavoral - October 7, 2019, 12:32 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 12:30 PM)Lavish Living Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) In a few years any single digits will be worth \$\$\$\$.

I have 3 of em.

actually \$0 like your existence <3

Omniscient - October 7, 2019, 12:35 pm

Quote:Users should be able to choose on a per conversation basis

That doesn't help our resources by giving members that control. Most probably wouldn't use it just like most don't PM prune. I just deleted 1 million PM's. Also by allowing Convo member deletion control we risk deleting scammer proof. We want a minimum of the length for Contracts which imho is 60 days.

Quote:I'm not sure if planned or possible, but as it's possible to have multiple convos with same user

That's not planned. A convo with a user even closed, will reopen and continue when you engage the user again in Convo. That's by design. You can however have separate group Convo's where there is multiple UIDs involved. I'd bet if you did a Convo with Stanley invited it would be unique.

Quote:If I am right: the PayPal chargeback limit is 180 days right?..

(I can't think of any other problem that is longer than 60 days)
I think that's right and maybe a good argument for a 6 month prune time.

Quote:An option to download your conversations as a file, or to permanently save (perhaps with a fee if need be) should be available

Likely something we will do at a later time. Probably would be in PDF form. Maybe a button on the Convo page to export that UID's PDF Convo. Actually adding that to our projects list now.

flavoral - October 7, 2019, 12:38 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 12:35 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's not planned. A convo with a user even closed, will reopen and continue when you engage the user again in Convo. That's by design. You can however have separate group Convo's where there is multiple UIDs involved. I'd bet if you did a Convo with Stanley invited it would be unique.

Actually M0hx and I tested it a while ago and it works. lol

<https://hackforums.net/convo.php?id=15491>

<https://hackforums.net/convo.php?id=15495>

Omniscient - October 7, 2019, 12:43 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 12:38 PM)flavoral Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Actually M0hx and I tested it a while ago and it works. lol

<https://hackforums.net/convo.php?id=15491>

<https://hackforums.net/convo.php?id=15495>

Do you mean you tested by adding Stanley? He's a really handy member of HF and doesn't get enough credit.

duplex - October 7, 2019, 12:44 pm

6 months is the perfect balance.

flavoral - October 7, 2019, 12:48 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 12:43 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Do you mean you tested by adding Stanley? He's a really handy member of HF and doesn't get enough credit.

Yes, we made 2 identical convo groups which included: Stanley, M0hx, and I. Stanley is an understated user, he deserves MOTM award for himself. He should do a giveaway with all those bytes that he has though xD

Bear - October 7, 2019, 12:48 pm

I think between 6 months to a year should be a great balance. 6 months should be a good start.

Sir - October 7, 2019, 12:50 pm

Id say 30 days. But 60 doesnt seem bad either.

duck - October 7, 2019, 1:30 pm

I voted 60 days, but you know what would be best.

Lets keep them for like 1 year but let both sides decide for how long do they want to keep the chats.

It'll be based like "Contract" if both sides will agree for 30 days, it'll be 30 days.

If both sides will agree for 6 months, it'll be 6 months.

Default value = 1 year.

Thank you Omniscient.

Omniscient - October 7, 2019, 1:43 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 01:30 PM)duck Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I voted 60 days, but you know what would be best. Lets keep them for like 1 year but let both sides decide for how long do they want to keep the chats.

It'll be based like "Contract" if both sides will agree for 30 days, it'll be 30 days.
If both sides will agree for 6 months, it'll be 6 months.

Default value = 1 year.

Thank you Omniscient.
So much easier to code a task to prune it once per week.

Trappy - October 7, 2019, 1:46 pm

Maybe prune Stanley once a month (if possible), active marketplace vendors get a ton of convo's from him daily.

Omniscient - October 7, 2019, 1:48 pm

Quote:Maybe prune Stanley once a month (if possible), active marketplace vendors get a ton of convo's from him daily.

I think in this thread or another thread I mentioned that we are looking into options to reduce or prune Stanley posts. Maybe have a max of just 1 post per thread and simply delete any previous PBB. We are looking into it.

Claw - October 7, 2019, 1:49 pm

60 days imo, if someone can't login for a month for any reason he can look at old convo's, or also if someone open a contract like the job will end in a month, there should be a time so if there is a problem they have proof of it in convo.

Charger - October 7, 2019, 2:11 pm

1 year, especially if it replaces private messages.

Evil - October 7, 2019, 2:50 pm

I don't know if this is possible, but convos that have to do with deals should be pruned once a year, but other convos can be pruned every 30 days. If that makes sense?

SoulZeh - October 7, 2019, 3:44 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 11:32 AM)Xerotic Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) IMO they should stay as long as your are willing to keep them. That is one of the benefits of having conversational style messages - you can quickly reference if you've talked to a member in the past the moment you start a convo with them.

I actually second this too, I don't know if this is a thing just yet, but maybe after so long of a user having the convo's maybe give them an alert after so long to maybe "Download" so they will always have if they want/need.

Omniscient - October 7, 2019, 4:09 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 03:44 PM)SoulZeh Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I actually second this too, I don't know if this is a thing just yet, but maybe after so long of a user having the convo's maybe give them an alert after so long to maybe "Download" so they will always have if they want/need.

That would be more annoying than useful.

Spider - October 7, 2019, 4:13 pm

I voted 1 year but 6 months is just as well in my opinion.

SoulZeh - October 7, 2019, 4:15 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 04:09 PM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That would be more annoying than useful. Ahh, I suppose it may have it's perks and then also the disadvantages too.

Meow - October 7, 2019, 4:38 pm

I'd say 3-6 months is the way to go, mainly because of deal disputes and having the actual proof you talked to the person, etc.

Maybe even a year (12 months) if there are enough resources for that.

Gary Clark Jr. - October 7, 2019, 4:57 pm

How does data storage size of convos compare to private messages? Are convos more resource-intensive? I assume not but that would be something I'd put into account too.

lurking - October 7, 2019, 5:19 pm

Would you ever consider maybe having an upgraded feature for either longer storage length or the ability to archive up to x-conversations at once that will never delete between you and a user? Say 3 or 5 conversations, maybe that I never want to delete between certain people due to information in them. I think that would be useful... just my opinion tho.

In addition, voted 6-months mainly due to PayPal chargeback range. Having the ability for a user to change the conversation duration to less (similar to telegram, wickr, signal, etc) would be interesting.

Truth - October 7, 2019, 6:32 pm

I would prefer longer than 1 year but 1 year seems alright for convos.

When doing deals with members, having a reference with PMS/convos is great if I deal with that member again a year later or so, maybe there can be a no prune option for some PMS/convos? and have a limit of 50/100 or so per member. Or maybe just for ub3rs or something.

Are Omni own PMS pruned? as if Omni himself has his own PMS prune and sees backing it up not as an inconvenience then I guess I am just a baby or something lol as I find 1 year pruned PM a little inconvenient but then again I been on HF almost 10 years now and memory is not that great when remembering HF members

also, as far as saving resources/space. Maybe allow users to delete threads? as there is a bunch of junk threads that is just mistakes/waste. Not sure how big of a space those take tho

Omniscient - October 7, 2019, 9:19 pm

Quote:Are Omni own PMS pruned?

Yes, I prune mine 1 year as well. Ub3r, Staff and Admin group are 1 year PM prune.

I probably would be fine with 6 months really.

Quote:Maybe allow users to delete threads?

That's an SEO issue actually and deleting them is a problem and why I no longer allow Ub3r Junk.

+mK - October 7, 2019, 9:30 pm

Can you run some math and see the longest someone has waited to make a dispute since their particular contract has started? That's the length of time that I would reasonably expect conversations to exist for. I think 3 months is fair, but I don't particularly look through my PMS for old messages. Then again, I don't dabble heavily into the Marketplace.

Deal - October 7, 2019, 9:46 pm

Six months would be suitable.

Now that we're talking convo I have an issue with accessing convos from my laptop. It just loads forever. This issue does not happen when browsing from my phone. Does anyone else have this issue?

Eagle 95 - October 7, 2019, 10:29 pm

6 months and an option to export. I see you're mentioning it'd be a pdf format. It'd be highly desirable that you can verify what you've exported - each export should have its own unique id to prevent faking of convos if they need to be reused after. I viewed the current PM export feature, it's just a wall of text that can be easily faked.

Warbiest - October 8, 2019, 7:14 am

I voted 6 months but I actually regret that decision. I think it would be a good move for a place like HackForums to not waste resources on saving messages, when that's never going to be a main part of the feature anyway.

If people need the history for any reason, an ability to easily export/save their message history would be ideal. Besides that, you could even go for a more "secure" type of vibe by giving messages a very short shelf life.

BTC - October 8, 2019, 10:10 am

(Oct 8, 2019 10:06 AM)xadamxk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Literally anything you export could be modified, even PDF's. It doesn't have to be used as an authentic tracker, just a point of reference.

True, it would be very difficult to setup a system to export and not have it modified/faked afterwards.

The only methods I can think of would just be completely pointless to even waste the time on setting up. And some would require too much resources

SoulZeh - October 8, 2019, 11:03 am

(Oct 7, 2019 10:29 PM)Eagle 95 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) 6 months and an option to export. I see you're mentioning it'd be a pdf format. It'd be highly desirable that you can verify what you've exported - each export should have its own unique id to prevent faking of convos if they need to be reused after. I viewed the current PM export feature, it's just a wall of text that can be easily faked.

I somewhat suggested that here:

<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=6014385&pid=59028514#pid59028514>

But Omniscient said it would be more annoying than useful, so..

TCP - October 8, 2019, 11:55 am

Voted 30 days, but I think up to 6 months is reasonable especially if related to the marketplace

HyperPhobic - October 8, 2019, 12:02 pm

(Oct 7, 2019 11:25 AM)Omniscient Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) We already prune old PMs. Doing about 1m rows now. It's just part of policy and we actually have more PMs than posts on HF. The expectation is that Convo will replace PMs eventually. But given the nature of Convo I think we should set a standard for pruning as well.

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Also by pruning it allows for slightly more privacy. Your data has limited shelf-life and thus you

might feel more secure and private in that way. I suggest 60 days but I'm getting feedback on this in case members feel that's too short or heck, maybe too long. I think the minimum I would do is 30 days and max 1 year. We have to monitor usage. If we do fully replace the PM system then the table is likely going to explode in size.

Thank you for your feedback.

Hey Omni! This is my first time quoting you, just wanted to say hey :P I think it should be 60 days, as that's a reasonable time to respond to messages. Maybe a feature to save messages for paid members?

Most messages are "dO u HAcK slr?" so yeah, wipe that stuff. But I think there should be an option to save important messages, as there are sellers here who do transactions a lot, and some don't login regularly. :P your call at the end of the day, this is just my suggestion, hope it helps ?

Xepher The Cat - *October 10, 2019, 10:16 am*

I voted one year, I personally think one year is quite optimal.