



Getting started with Nostr Africa Chat

Kinfolk: a private, invitation-only chat space for your family, team or community.

chat.nostr.africa · Updated October 2026

Nostr Africa Chat (Kinfolk) is a private chat space. Each person signs in with a **passkey** on their own device, new members join only by **invitation** and approval, and conversations are organised in rooms. Messages are stored encrypted; full end-to-end encryption is coming soon.

HOW YOU GET YOUR OWN SPACE

Chat is ordered as a build: contact us to set up a chat space for your group. The steps below show how the people in your group join and use it.

In short

- 1 Create your passkey
- 2 Create the home (first admin)
- 3 Invite people
- 4 They accept
- 5 Approve
- 6 Chat

1 About passkeys

A passkey replaces a password. When you sign in, your phone or computer asks for your fingerprint, face, device PIN or security key. Chat **does not receive or store** your fingerprint or face: it only receives a secure proof from your device. Everyone should create **their own** passkey; never share one.

2 Create your access

1. On your own device, open **chat.nostr.africa**.
2. Choose **Create access**, enter your name (and optionally your email), then **Create passkey access**.
3. Confirm with your fingerprint, face, PIN or security key when your device asks.
4. Next time, use **Sign in with a passkey**.

First administrator only: after signing in, you see the form **Create private family home**. Give your space a name (and an optional description) and create it. You become its administrator.

3 Invite people

Administrators and council members can invite people at **chat.nostr.africa/membership**:

1. Under **Invite someone**, enter the person's name and email.
2. Choose their group: **Nuclear family**, **Extended family** or **Trusted family friend**.
3. Click **Create invitation** and copy the private code. It is shown **only once**.
4. Send the code to the person privately. It is not emailed automatically. Never post it in a public group.

4 Join with an invitation

1. The invited person first creates their own passkey at **chat.nostr.africa** (step 2).

2. They open **chat.nostr.africa/membership**, paste the code under **Accept your invitation** and click **Request access**.
3. A council member opens the same page and clicks **Acknowledge** next to the request.
4. When enough acknowledgements are given, the new member becomes active.

5 Chat

1. Open **chat.nostr.africa/chat**. Pick a room from **Family rooms** on the left. A lock icon marks a restricted room.
2. Type in the **Private message** field and press **Send**.
3. To share a photo or document, click the **paperclip**. JPG, PNG, WEBP and PDF files under **6 MB** are accepted.
4. Use the round **refresh** icon next to "Private relay" to sync messages.

Message status	Meaning
signed	Delivered to the private relay.
queued	Saved safely; delivery to the relay is still pending.
failed	Saved safely, but the relay did not accept it yet. Try syncing later or tell your administrator.

On a shared device, always sign out with the arrow icon in the top-right corner.

6 Troubleshooting

Problem	What to check
The passkey prompt does not appear	Use an up-to-date browser and make sure your device has a screen lock (PIN, fingerprint or face) turned on.
I cannot open the chat	Check that you created your own passkey and that your membership request was acknowledged.
A file will not attach	Check the file type (JPG, PNG, WEBP or PDF) and that it is under 6 MB.
An invitation code was lost	Ask for a new invitation. The old code cannot be recovered.

Need help?

We are happy to help you get started. Contact Nostr Africa (Mugisha Jean):

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Email jmugisha789@gmail.com

Website nostr.africa · all guides: nostr.africa/documentation