

At Zoom, we are hard at work to provide you with the best 24x7 global support experience during this pandemic. As part of this ongoing commitment, please review our updated [Support Guidelines](#).

Hello. How can we help?

Enter your search here...

Zoom Help Center > Getting Started > Frequently Asked Questions

- Getting Started
- Audio, Video, Sharing
- Meetings & Webinars
- Zoom Phone
- Account & Admin
- Zoom Rooms
- SIP / H.323
- Messaging
- Integration
- On-Premise
- Training

Recently viewed articles

- Release notes for iOS
- Release notes for macOS
- Getting started with webinar
- Zoom Cloud Service Status
- Passing host controls and leaving the meeting

Related articles

- Roles in a webinar
- Enabling breakout rooms
- Live training webinars
- Converting meetings and webinars
- Getting started with Virtual Background

Meeting and webinar comparison

Overview

The Meeting and Webinar platforms offer similar features and functionality but have some key differences.

Meetings are designed to be a collaborative event with all participants being able to screen share, turn on their video and audio, and see who else is in attendance.

Webinars are designed so that the host and any designated panelists can share their video, audio and screen. Webinars allow view-only attendees. They have the ability to interact via Q&A, Chat, and answering polling questions. The host can also unmute the attendees. Attendees in webinars, can not rename themselves as well.

This article covers:

- Meetings versus webinars
- Feature comparison

Meetings versus webinars

	Meeting	Webinar
Description	Zoom meetings are ideal for hosting more interactive sessions where you'll want to have lots of audience participation or break your session into smaller groups.	Think of webinars like a virtual lecture hall or auditorium. Webinars are ideal for large audiences or events that are open to the public. Typically, webinar attendees do not interact with one another. Though Zoom provides options for you to get more social with your attendees, your average webinar has one or a few people speaking to an audience.
Best used for	Small to large groups (2+ participants) for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer-facing meetings Sales meetings Training sessions 	Large events and public broadcasts (50+ attendees) such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Town halls Quarterly updates Educational lectures
Typically used by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General employees Training groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event hosts SVPs and C-Suite
Cost	Free and Paid subscription options available.	Paid Add-on , available to Pro or higher subscriptions.

Feature comparison

Feature	Meeting	Webinar
Participant roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host and co-host Participant Learn more about Meeting Roles.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Host and co-host Panelist Attendee Learn more about Webinar Roles.
Audio sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants can mute/unmute their own audio Host can mute/request to unmute participants The Host can set all participants to mute upon entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only the Host and panelists can mute/unmute their own audio Attendees join in listen-only mode* The Host can unmute one or more attendees
Video sharing	All participants	Hosts and panelists
Screen sharing	✓	✓
Capacity	Up to 100 with free license, up to 1,000 depending on plan and large meeting add-on.	Up to 100-10,000 participants, depending on the license.
Participants list	Visible to all participants	Visible to host and panelist
Email reminders	N/A	If registration is enabled
Chat	In-meeting Chat	Webinar chat
Meeting reactions	✓	Only raise hand
Q&A	N/A	✓
File transfer	✓	✓
Whiteboard	✓	✓
Annotation	✓	✓
Polling	Polling for meetings	Polling for webinars
Livestream	Facebook , YouTube , Workplace by Facebook , Custom Streaming Service	Facebook , YouTube , Workplace by Facebook , Custom Streaming Service
Registration	Registration for meetings	Registration for webinars
Closed captioning	✓	✓
Recording	✓	✓
Breakout rooms	✓	N/A
Practice session	N/A	✓
Waiting room	✓	N/A
Paypal integration	N/A	✓
Require password to join	✓	✓
International dial-in numbers	✓	✓

*Note: If the host or co-host enables **Allow to talk** for an attendee, they will be able to enable their microphone as well as mute and unmute themselves.

Last Updated: April 5, 2021

Was this article helpful?



About

- Zoom Blog
- Customers
- Our Team
- Why Zoom
- Features
- Careers
- Integrations
- Partners
- Resources
- Press

Download

- Meetings Client
- Zoom Rooms Client
- Zoom Rooms Controller
- Browser Extension
- Outlook Plug-in
- iPhone/iPad App
- Android App

Sales

- 1.888.799.9666
- Contact Sales
- Plans & Pricing
- Request a Demo
- Webinars and Events

Support

- Test Zoom
- Account
- Support Center
- Live Training
- Feedback
- Contact Us
- Accessibility
- Privacy and Security

Language

English ▾

