

## Free online phone calls

There are a number of programs(apps) that let you make free phone calls over the Internet. \*note - Free phone call apps and/or services may be limited to calls in the US and Canada.

All these methods of making "free" phone calls require internet access. While these will work using cellular data(Internet) access, the cost of cellular data negates the "free" feature.

These programs(apps)are generally available in four different forms:

- *PC to phone* programs are ones that can make a free call from your computer to a real telephone number so you don't even need a telephone yourself. \*\*Requires mic and speakers.
- *App to phone* software are ones that make free internet calls from a mobile device to a real number. These services support making phone calls to any number, even landlines and mobile phones that aren't using the app.
- *PC to PC* internet calling is when a computer makes a free phone call to another computer.
- *App to app* services run on mobile devices(and computers) and result in phone calls that can only work if the recipient has the same application installed. This method can *not* be used to call landlines (or other mobile phones unless they're running the same software). --- Skype would be a popular example.

Explanation of 'free' phone calls using Google Hangouts.

### **Google Hangouts**

You need a free Google account to use Hangouts.

You can use the Hangouts website with your web browser - show Hangouts website.  
<https://hangouts.google.com/>

You can use your Gmail account. Hangouts phone calls aren't available in the Firefox web browser at this time...Google is working on it. I tested and it works in the Chrome web browser.

Or you can download the Hangouts app on your mobile devices ... demonstrate a Hangouts phone call on my Android tablet.

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.google.android.talk&hl=en>

Apple

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/hangouts/id643496868?mt=8>

There are many other "phone call" apps. You're not limited to Google products. Examples...

Talkatone <http://www.talkatone.com/>

Talkatone is a free app for iOS, Android, and Kindle Fire that lets you call and text any phone number, even landlines, and cellphones that don't use the app. No data/talk plan is required. You get unlimited free inbound internet calls (people can call as often as they like), unlimited texting (and sending images), and *limited* outbound calls to non-app users (though the minutes replenish every month and you can buy more if you want) The exception is if you call other Talkatone users, in which case you can make unlimited inbound and outbound calls.

Viber <https://www.viber.com/>

PC to PC and app to app free internet phone calls are available with Viber.

Viber works with many different devices. The mobile application can be installed for iOS and Android users.

The software can also be installed on a desktop computer to make free internet calls with other computers and mobile devices. This works with Windows, Mac, and Linux operating systems.

The app scours your contact list on your mobile device to find other Viber users, which makes it simple to know who you can call for free.

Messages and video can also be sent through Viber to any other device that has it installed, be it a mobile or desktop