

# Exit Skype, welcome Jitsi Jabber XMPP

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*Translated by Google Translate. Some of the most obvious errors were corrected. Original article in Dutch: <http://www.furorteutonicus.eu/2011/09/09/exit-skype-welkom-jitsi-jabber-xmpp/>*

A while back I wrote about [the new voice calling](#) and all possible options. Today I installed the new software that is ready for the future. I chose XMPP.

## What is XMPP (Jabber)?

Started out as a Jabber instant messaging and they also developed their own protocol to send messages. That protocol, XMPP, is now by many other programs and business use. With plus XMPP the [Jingle](#) extension you can chat, send files via the Internet with each call and if you have a webcam to see each other. It seems a bit like Skype. But Skype is not *open source*, while XMPP is open. As a result there are many different programs that support XMPP. Personally, I think the best Jitsi (see below). Also, Google and Facebook use it, and there are even rumors that Skype is working to support XMPP. However nice that one XMPP address looks exactly like an email address, so if you're lucky you can use the same address `yourname@yourdomain.com` for both mail and XMPP. Another benefit of XMPP is that you can install it on your own server (if you have your own domain). Then you have greater control.

An advantage of Skype is the fact that you can reach old-fashioned telephones (paid). XMPP is really intended for the Internet. There are tricks to make interoperability possible, but I personally do not need it and that's why I do not go into it. Technical people can also search on the keywords [XMPP and SIP and PSTN](#).

As with XMPP [Jingle](#) almost anything that can Skype, and mainly because Skype also has disadvantages such as a nasty pop up when starting and less safe now it is owned by Microsoft. I choose to phase out Skype and to move on to XMPP with Jitsi. In the future, people who do not use XMPP program can no longer reach me. (Incidentally, I am against continuous availability. It leads off and is extremely disruptive to both your peace and your productivity.)



Jitsi screenshot (Evert)

# Jitsi

Jitsi not only supported but also other networks such as SIP. SIP is widely used for Internet calling with the traditional telephone network. Furthermore Jitsi still in active development. A bit unfortunate that Jitsi written in Java, so it uses slightly more *core* memory and the *user interface* is sometimes a little less polished. Jitsi will always try to encrypt messages, but if the other one *client* who uses that were not possible, then the message unencrypted over the line. [Jitsi download](#) for Windows, Linux or Mac.

There are many more *client* programs that support XMPP: [Psi](#) , [Psi +](#) , [Pidgin](#) and [Spark](#) work on almost all computers (Windows, Linux, Mac). For Andoid is [Xabber](#) and only the Mac is [Adium](#). iPhone users can use [OneTeam](#). OneTeam is there for Windows, Linux and Mac, and even a Firefox plugin. OneTeam is free but not open source - so I recommend Jitsi. Moreover Jitsi has more *features* .

## How do you get an XMPP account?

*Are you a customer at XS4ALL?*

<https://www.xs4all.nl/klant/experimenteel/jabber.php>

*At Jabber.org can get free accounts.*

(XMPP has started as Jabber.) <https://register.jabber.org/>

*It you have a Google account, such as gmail?*

<http://www.google.com/talk/otherclients.html>

*Do you have a Facebook account?*

<https://www.facebook.com/sitetour/chat.php>

*Are you very close to me?*

Then you can probably get one from me with username@evert.net or something. I have my own server. But then I know your password, I use a [self-signed certificate](#) and I guarantee nothing: do not forget that I'm just a hobbyist 😊 In short, rather try the options above.



## Your own server

The best option for technical self-reliance is your own XMPP server. You can then configure accounts for yourself and / or family and friends - or for your business! You will need your own domain and server. Two good XMPP servers [ejabberd](#) and [Open Fire](#) , but also possible [prosody](#) is interesting. I use ejabberd - the [ejabberd installation on Ubuntu Server](#) was very simple. Your own domain can be obtained from e.g. [your hosting](#) , which also support the [SRV DNS server records](#) that you'll have to ask. Furthermore, on your router TCP ports 5222 and 5269 must be forwarded to your server.