

Facebook launches dedicated gaming app

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The social media giant Facebook has launched a new gaming app on the 20th of April 2020. The dedicated gaming app called "Facebook Gaming: Watch, Play, and Connect" is now available on Google Play. Although the app is currently available only via Google Play, for now, iOS too will get access to the app as soon as it gets the approval from Apple.

The app was in the testing phase since 2018 and was supposed to be

launched in June this year but due to the global lockdown, they decided to advance the release date of the app by two months.

The app has been downloaded over 5,000,000 times already has successfully attracted 700 million people of the site's 2.5 billion active users on their gaming options and now, launching this devoted gaming app marks a milestone for the company.

Gaming enthusiasts will be able to create live-streams of their own gameplays as well as watch live gameplays of other players, enjoy new videos shared by the biggest e-sports and gaming's top publishers and join various competitions. Moreover, the app lets gamers play countless instant games without the requirement of installing any of them. This app also offers the option of being part of a community sharing similar interests.

New cars this week



AUDI A3: It is the Q3's brother that went to college and got a job in the big city. The party in the back tailgate has been traded for an all-business boot lid to keep up with the city life. Will still give a Q3 a run for his money in a race though. It's aimed to be a small-ish car packed with lots of luxury and an engine option offering a four cylinder pumping out 150hp. Hybrid and diesel also part of the options.



TOYOTA YARIS: The new smallest crossover from Toyota, the 2020 hybrid is a bulked-up Yaris hatchback for the whole family. The designers have taken a few cues from the RAV 4 as well, including its optional 4WD capability. You get a city car with ample ground clearance and a 1.5 motor giving out about 114bhp for fuel efficiency.

Facebook to greatly expand its video chat offerings

In a live stream last Friday, CEO Mark Zuckerberg announced that Facebook is rolling out a suite of new products to expand its capabilities in video chat.

Of the announced features, one called Messenger Rooms promises to be the most significant. It's a virtual hangouts tool that can host up to 50 people who can drop in and out at will. People using room can experiment with Facebook's augmented reality filters or swap out their physical background for a virtual one, some of which offer 360-degree views of exotic locales. A new slate of AR filters will also help brighten up dark rooms or touch up users' appearances.

The Room calls are not end-to-end encrypted, but Facebook claims it does not view or listen to calls. The creator of a room can remove participants

at any time, and rooms where illicit behavior is taking place can be reported to Facebook. The creator can also decide whether the room will be open or invite only.



Room will currently be available in Facebook and Messenger only. Later, rooms will expand to Instagram Direct, WhatsApp, and Portal.

Facebook is also doubling the capacity of video calls on WhatsApp from four people to eight, adding video

calls to Facebook Dating, and adding new live-streaming features to both Facebook and Instagram.

In addition, Facebook Live will add back a feature called Live With, enabling streamers to invite another person to stream with them. The donate button will become available, allowing users to raise money directly from their broadcasts.

Similarly, Instagram will begin allowing users to post live streams to IGTV as well as to Instagram stories after they finish a stream, and Instagram Live broadcasts will become available on desktop for the first time. Users with Facebook's Portal display will also get the ability to go live to pages and groups, supplementing their ability to go live from their own profiles.

EDITOR'S NOTE

"LIFE WILL NOT BE THE SAME AGAIN."

Not my humble words. No. These words have far greater weight than I could have added. And it is true. This was stated last week by Obaidul Quader, Minister of Road Transport and Bridges of Bangladesh, in a Facebook post where he enlightens his followers with pictures of him maintaining normalcy. He goes about on walks and smelling the literal roses on his lawn. 15k likes and 580 shares make him a celebrity.

His statement is not a bunch of words to be alarmed by. Take his statement and prepare because for a change, he is quite right. It will not be the same. And how you accept, embrace and tackle that will set you apart. Our cover story deals with just that: understanding how to reach consumers now that distance is what keeps us alive.

- Ehsanur Raza Ronny, Editor

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Starlink internet public beta to begin in roughly six months, Elon Musk says

Nintendo shuts down NNID logins after hackers compromise 160,000 accounts



Porsche unveils CarPlay-equipped radios for classic 911s.

Google to extend identity verification requirements to all advertisers



Facebook pulls 'pseudoscience' from its list of targeted ad categories