

Communication Channel's Scoreboard: WhatsApp vs. Signal

Channel/Tool	Open source	Default E2E ¹	Group chat	Encryption protocol	Anonymous sign-up ²	Self-destructing messages	Remote message deletion	Metadata Collection	Paid	Jurisdiction	Self-hosted	Usability
WhatsApp	No	Yes	Yes	Good (Signal)	No	No	No	Yes	No	USA	No	Good
Signal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good (Signal)	No	Yes	No	No	No	USA	No	Good

Signal wins: better security (open source code, self-destructing messages), and better privacy (no metadata collection).

¹ End-to-end encrypted

² Some channels allow you to create an account anonymously, for instance by email (you can then use a “ghost” email to create an account instead of a phone number which may identify you).