

# Google Workspace Updates: New community features for Google Chat and an update on Currents

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April 12, 2023

- [Currents](#)
- [Google Chat](#)
- [Other](#)

**Note:** This blog post outlines upcoming changes to Google Currents for Workspace users. For information on the previous deprecation of Google+ for users with personal Google accounts, please [see this post](#).

## What's Changing

Last year, we [announced plans to wind down Currents](#), to focus efforts on community experiences that are better integrated with the rest of Google Workspace. To help our customers manage this transition, we published [detailed guidance](#) for Workspace administrators and enabled customers to opt-in for [automated migration of Currents data](#) to spaces in Google Chat.

We are nearing the end of this transition. Beginning July 5, 2023, Currents will no longer be available. Workspace administrators can [export Currents data using Takeout](#) before August 8, 2023. Beginning August 8th, Currents data will no longer be available for download.

Although we are saying goodbye to Currents, we continue to invest in new features for [Google Chat](#), so teams can connect and collaborate with a shared sense of belonging. Over the last year, we've delivered features designed to support community engagement at scale, and will continue to deliver more. Here is a summary of the features with additional details below:



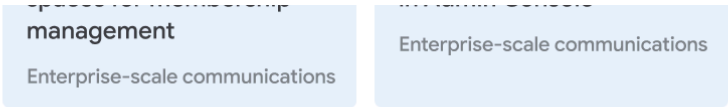
# Recent community features in Google Chat

## 2022

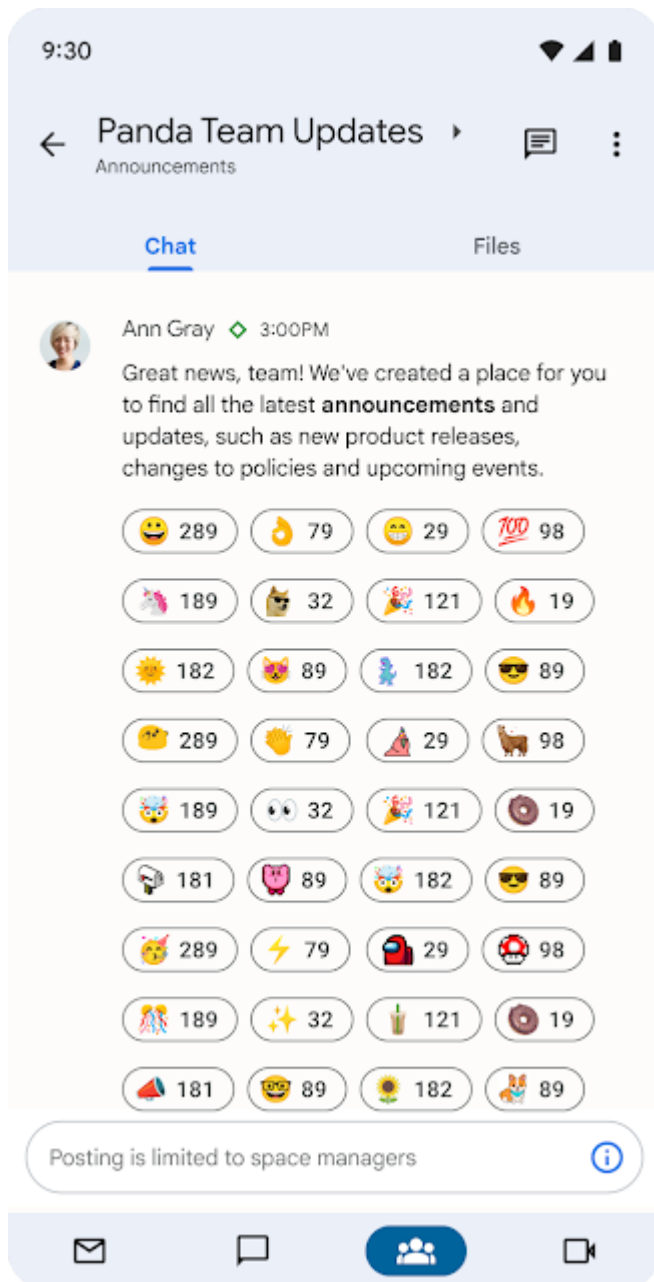
<p>FEBRUARY</p> <p><b>Space manager role<sup>1</sup></b></p> <p>Safe and secure collaboration</p>	<p>MARCH</p> <p><b>Invite others to join via link<sup>2</sup></b></p> <p>Discover and connection</p>	<p>MAY</p> <p><b>Create &amp; manage spaces via API<sup>3</sup></b></p> <p>Apps and workflow integrations</p>
<p>JULY</p> <p><b>Larger spaces<sup>4</sup></b></p> <p>Discovery and connection</p>	<p>AUGUST</p> <p><b>Discoverable spaces<sup>5</sup></b></p> <p>Discovery and connection</p>	<p>OCTOBER</p> <p><b>In-line threaded conversations<sup>6</sup></b></p> <p>Expressive and engaging conversations</p>
<p>OCTOBER</p> <p><b>Custom emojis<sup>7</sup></b></p> <p>Expressive and engaging conversations</p>	<p>OCTOBER</p> <p><b>Data loss prevention (DLP)<sup>8</sup></b></p> <p>Safe and secure collaboration</p>	<p>DECEMBER</p> <p><b>Create low-code/ no-code Chat apps<sup>9</sup></b></p> <p>Apps and workflow integrations</p>

## 2023

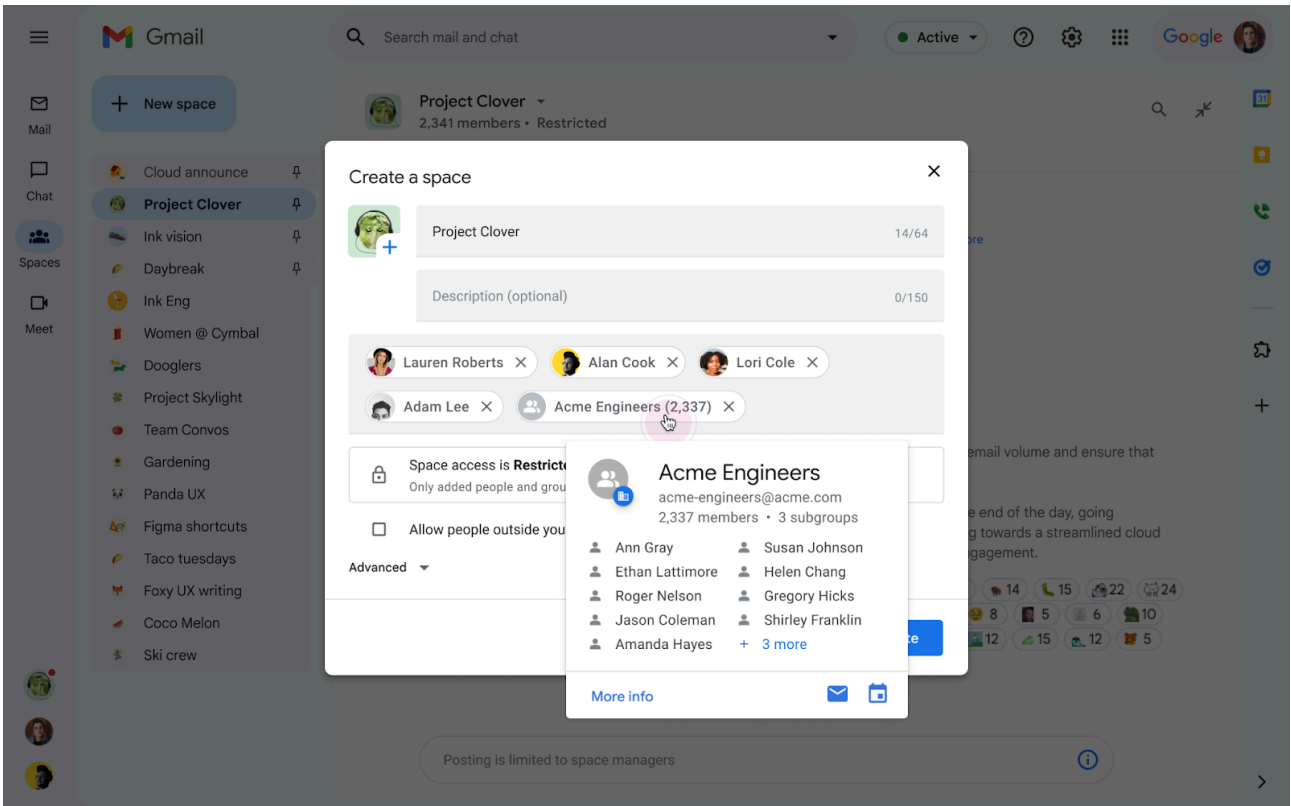
<p>JANUARY</p> <p><b>Improved membership management<sup>10</sup></b></p> <p>Safe and secure collaboration</p>	<p>MARCH</p> <p><b>New capabilities for space managers<sup>11</sup></b></p> <p>Safe and secure collaboration</p>	<p>MARCH</p> <p><b>Admin installation for Chat apps<sup>12</sup></b></p> <p>Apps and workflow integration</p>
<p>APRIL</p> <p><b>Announcements<sup>13</sup></b></p> <p>Enterprise-scale communications</p>	<p>COMING SOON</p> <p><b>Post view metrics</b></p> <p>Discovery and connection</p>	<p>COMING SOON</p> <p><b>Full Chat API</b></p> <p>Apps and workflow integration</p>
<p>COMING SOON</p> <p><b>Google Groups sync with spaces for membership</b></p>	<p>COMING SOON</p> <p><b>Space management tools in Admin Console</b></p>	



This month, we're enabling **new ways for organizations to share information** across the enterprise with [announcements in Google Chat](#). This gives admin controls to limit permissions for posting in a space, while enabling all members to read and react, helping ensure that important updates stay visible and relevant. Later this year, we plan to simplify membership management by integrating Google Groups with spaces in Chat, enable post-level metrics for announcements, and provide tools for Workspace administrators to manage spaces across their domain.

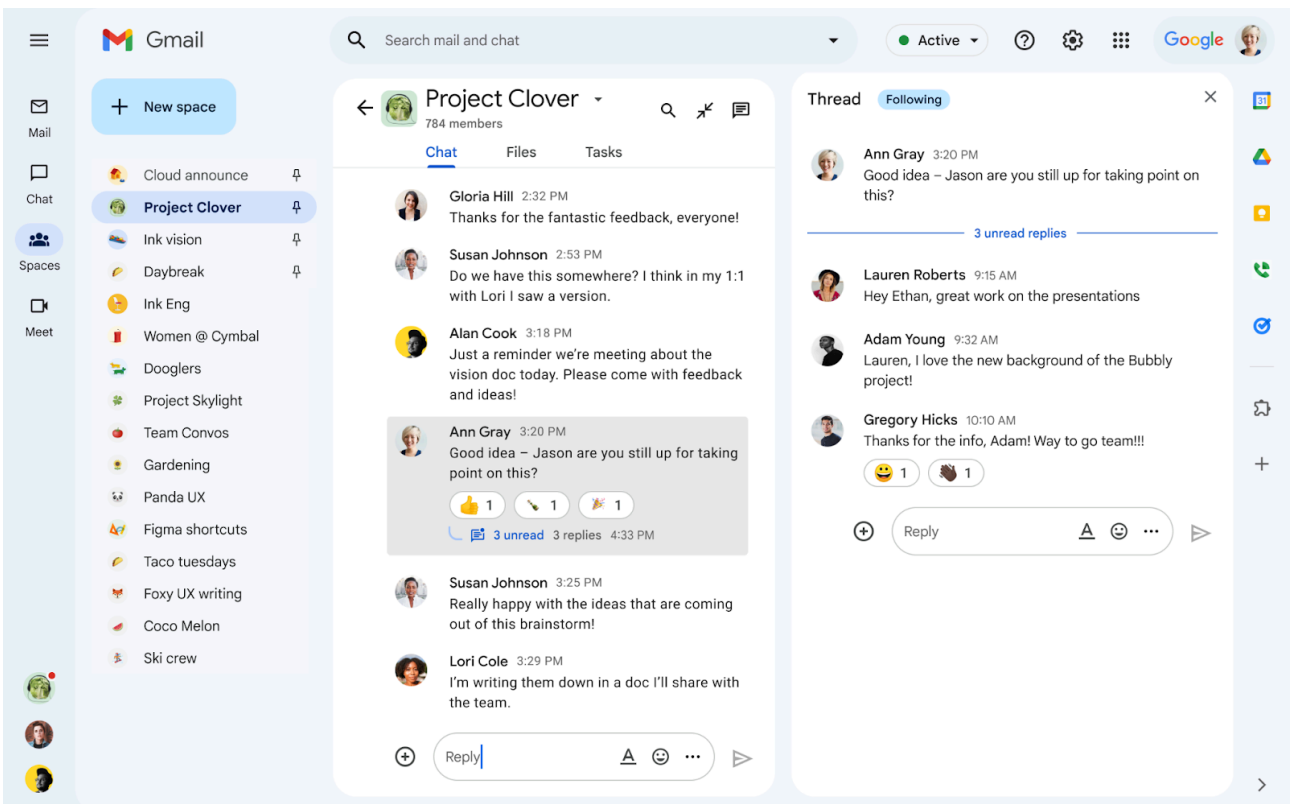


Announcements in Google Chat

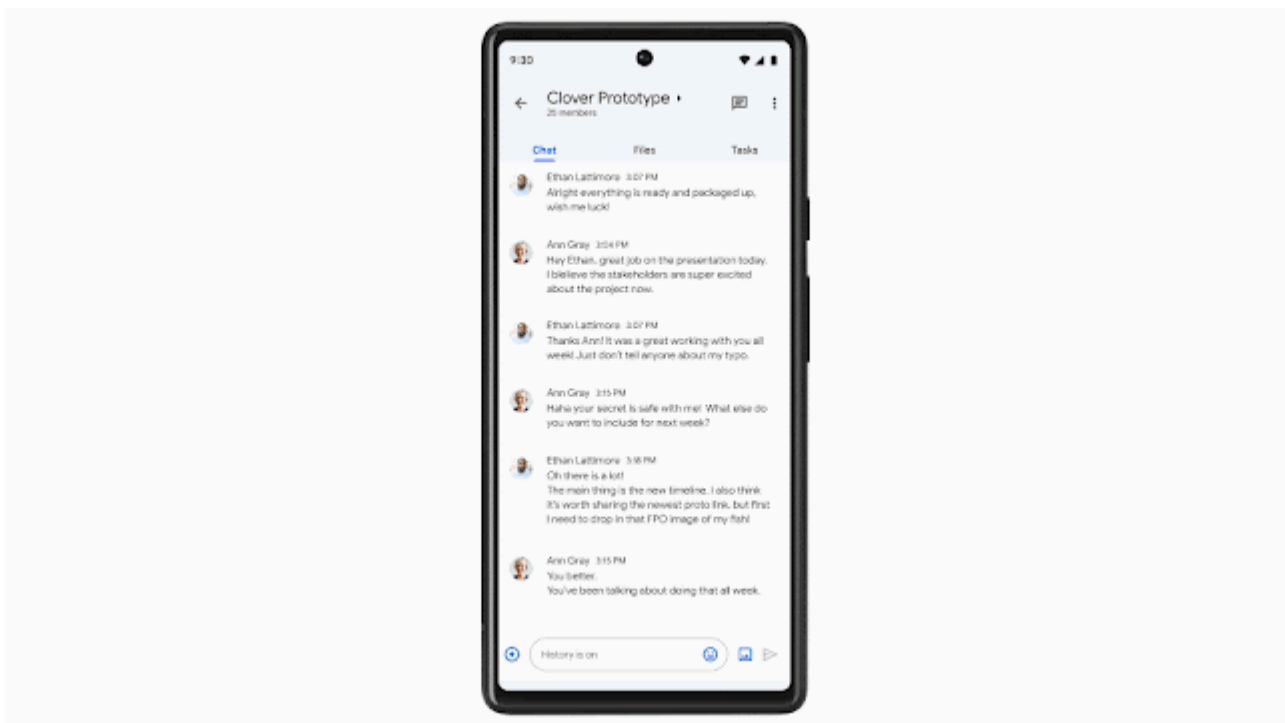


### Managing space membership with Google Groups

We've already rolled out **new ways to make conversations more expressive and engaging** such as [in-line threading](#) to enable rich exploration of a specific topic without overtaking the main conversation and [custom emojis](#) to enable fun, personal expression.

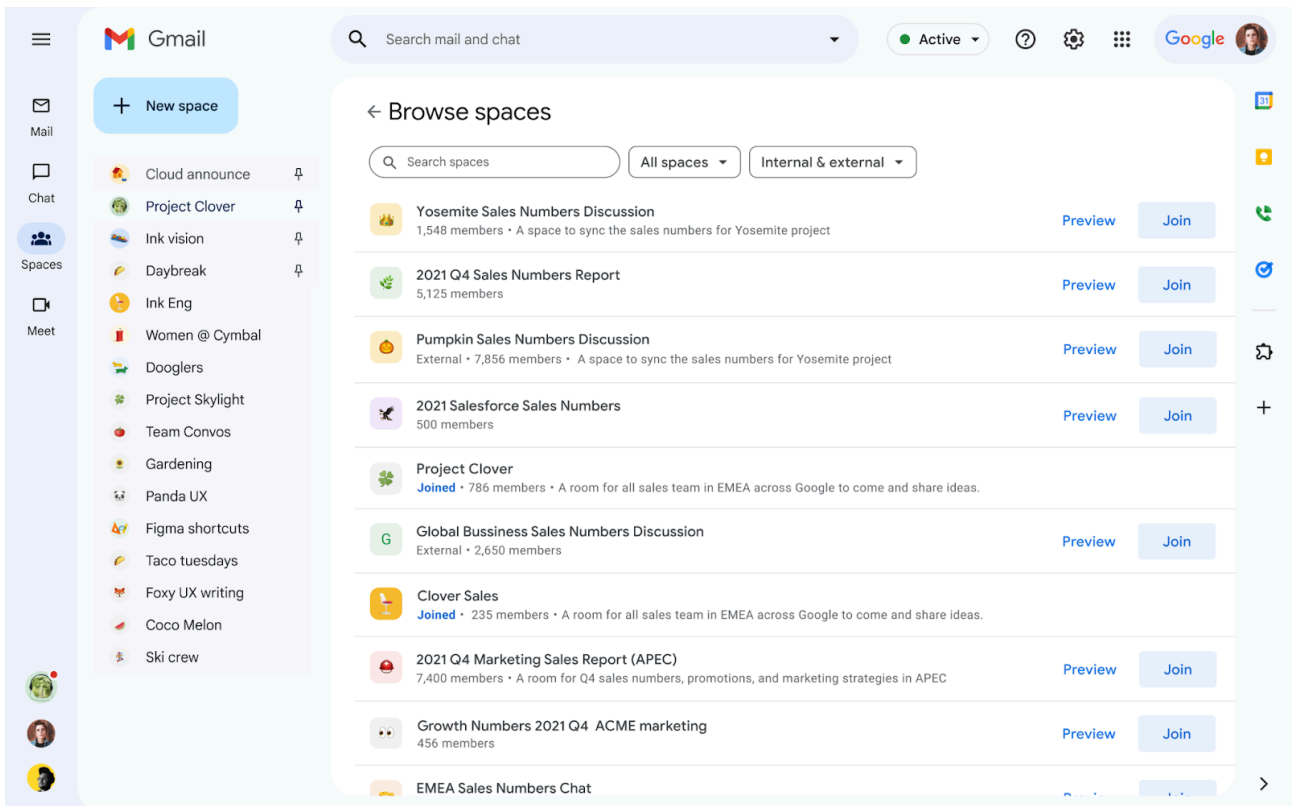


## *In-line threaded conversations*



## *Discover and join communities with up to 8,000 members*

We've also made it easier for individuals to **discover and join communities of shared interest**. By [searching in Gmail](#), users can explore a directory of available spaces covering topics of personal or professional interest such as gardening, pets, career development, fitness, cultural identity, and more, with the ability to [invite others to join](#) via link. Last year, we increased [the size of communities supported by spaces in Chat to 8,000 members](#), and we are working to scale this in a meaningful way later this year.



A directory of spaces in Google Chat for users to join.

As communities grow, it's essential to provide **tools for content moderation and data management**. Last year, we introduced [space managers](#), a community lead with [abilities](#) to [moderate conversation](#) and [manage membership](#), and last year at NEXT, we rolled out [data loss prevention](#) (DLP) for Chat. We will continue to enhance community health and data security for Google Chat.

Our partner community is extending the power of Chat through **integrations with essential third-party apps** such as [Jira](#), [GitHub](#), [Asana](#), [PagerDuty](#), [Zendesk](#) and [Salesforce](#). Many organizations have **built custom workflow apps using low-code and no-code tools**, and we anticipate that this number will continue to grow with the GA releases of the Chat API and AppSheet's Chat app building capabilities later this year.

For teams to thrive in this rapidly changing era of hybrid work, it's essential to build authentic personal connections and a strong sense of belonging, no matter when or where individuals work. We will continue to make Google Chat the best option for Workspace customers seeking to build a community and culture for hybrid teams, with much more to come later this year.

## Who's impacted

Admins and end users

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