

# Tour of the Interface

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## Main areas

- Left sidebar: Recent DMs, channels, and unread indicators. Use the + to create or join rooms.
- Header: Room name, topic, search, call button, and room actions (pins, members, notifications).
- Message pane: Messages, threads, files, and system notices appear here.
- Composer: Where you type, attach files, add emojis, and start threads.

## Key controls

- New message: Press **N** or click the message box.
- Quick switcher: Press **Ctrl/Cmd + K** to jump to rooms or people.
- Search: Use the search box in the header for messages and files.
- Room menu: Click the room name → manage notifications, members, topic, and pins.

## Personal settings

- Avatar → Preferences: themes, language, sidebar sections, and notification defaults.
- Avatar → Status: set presence and a short status message.

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