# OpenMRS on irc.freenode.net

Internet Relay Chat (IRC) is a form of real-time Internet chat or synchronous conferencing.

You are welcome to join the OpenMRS chat room on irc.freenode.net.

There are numerous IRC clients from which to choose or you can visit our chat room or directly from your browser using `webchat.freenode.net`.

## How to use IRC


Our IRC channels are available for real-time communication with other community members. They can be an ideal way to get help with a problem you're having, discuss development ideas, or just chat and share information. (We're not always serious!) Please remember: IRC is not meant to be a 24/7 helpline with immediate support. If your question is not answered right away it may be because no one is awake or no one is paying attention.

### Tip

Try addressing someone directly by putting their complete user name into your question. This might get their attention faster. You should also consider posting a message to OpenMRS Talk.

## Common IRC commands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command to type</th>
<th>What it does</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>/nick YourName</td>
<td>Sets your current nickname to <code>YourName</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/msg NickName message</td>
<td>Sends <code>message</code> to <code>NickName</code> in a private chat window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/me text</td>
<td>Sends <code>text</code> in a 3rd-person sort of way, e.g., “YourNickName starts to dance”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/whois NickName</td>
<td>Shows you additional information about <code>NickName</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>/quit</td>
<td>Logs out of IRC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are a lot of other commands available. Search the web for information about them.


## IRC clients we like

Windows
mIRC
X-Chat (free Windows version available at http://www.silverex.info)

Linux

- Irssi
- X-Chat

Mac

- Textual
- Colloquy
- Adium
- LimeChat

Browser Plugin

- Chatzilla for Firefox

Help! My IRC is blocked.

Some Internet providers block the ports needed for IRC. If this is the case for you, then you can use a proxy to join the channel through a web browser. You should be able to use this page to connect.

IRC Logs

- OpenMRS IRC logs on Logbot
- Archived logs from 2008 - 2014