

Microsoft Teams on Linux

~~There is an official native Linux client for MS Teams~~ Not anymore! since September 2022 the native client has been discontinued for Linux and Users should now use the web application instead.

To get the maximum of features, you should use either chrome or edge.

simply navigate to <https://teams.microsoft.com> and then click on the three dots in the upper right corner of your chrome browser (where you also have options such as Print etc.) and click on "install Microsoft Teams". Now you should be able to start it like a native app.

compared to the linux native client, you will finally have some features that were missing:

- background images work, but only the microsoft defaults, you can't upload your own
- single window sharing works, you no longer need to share your whole screen

there are also things that don't work anymore:

- you can't open a pop-out chat window, instead you can open your teams PWA app multiple times if you want to have a chat in parallel to a meeting for example.

use custom image (flimsy)

as stated before, you can't upload your custom image as background.. that's partially true.. while the app does not allow, you can hack your browser to use another image.

your image needs to be somewhere on a server serving it via HTTPS to your client. It does not have to be reachable by anybody else on the internet, but for you it must be reachable via https.

when your teams PWA app is open, focus on it and press CTRL + SHIFT + I to start the developer tools window. now go to the Application tab, then choose Local Storage → <https://teams.microsoft.com>.... you should see lots of entries. if you don't wait a moment and they should eventually appear.

now search for "localStorage.video.customBackground-call.setBackground" and you should see one entry. If you don't see an entry, start a new conference call and choose any background from the default ones, then try again. if you see the entry, change the value to something like `{"effectType":16,"path":"https://www.my.page/my.image.png"}` then press enter.

if you now restart your teams PWA app and you start a video call, you will see a black background, because your browser does not allow to use an image that's not from microsoft. but we can work around that too. Click on the puzzle icon in the upper left corner of your title bar, then choose "extension manager". Now install the Moseif Origins & CORS changer plug in.

now using the same puzzle icon, you should be able to enable it in your teams PWA window.

finally restart teams and you should see your image as background. Don't know for how long that will last though ;) and you will have to repeat this for all your pc's

From:

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Last update: **07.02.2023 12:13**

