

If you haven't tried Netflix Party to watch movies with friends, tonight's your night

The free browser extension will let you play and pause Netflix shows at the same time as your friends.

A new, free tool for the Google Chrome browser called Netflix Party could make social distancing and self-quarantine a whole lot more tolerable. It lets you start, stop and pause a Netflix movie or show you watch at the same time as a group of friends and family, without the hard work of trying to synchronize everyone. ("Three, two, one ... Play!") There's also a side chat bar where you and your friends can discuss what's going on in the movie -- much like you would if you were sitting together on the couch.



The sudden and severe lack of socializing as a result of trying to stem the spread of the new coronavirus puts a particular strain on children who have been removed from school, and on people who live alone. (Here's everything you need to know about staying healthy, educated and sane during the COVID-19 pandemic.)

Netflix Party helps bridge the gap by letting you and your friends simultaneously stream shows and movies on your desktop, so you're always watching the same thing at the same time. Read on for how to download, install and use the Netflix Party extension to sync your movie-watching with family and friends.

Everyone in your group needs a Netflix account

In order for this to work, everyone you send an invite to will need to have access to Netflix. If they don't have an account, Netflix is offering a free 30-day trial for new subscribers. If they're not a new subscriber, they can

reactivate their account for \$9 a month and cancel at any time.

Download the Google extension

After everyone has logged in to Netflix on their computers, they'll need to download the Netflix Party extension. Here's how.

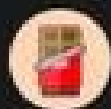
1. Visit netflixparty.com in your Google Chrome browser.
2. Click **Get Netflix Party for free**.
3. You'll be redirected to the Google Chrome web store page to download the extension. Click **Add to Chrome**.
4. A pop-up box will open. Select **Add Extension**. You'll now see a grey **NP** icon in your browser toolbar.

Start watching movies with friends

Netflix Party



Chatroom



created the session



started playing the video at 0:30

Type a message...

Now that you've got the extension downloaded, you can begin watching shows and movies with your friends and family. Here's how to get started.

1. Open a new tab in your Google Chrome browser and log in to Netflix.
2. Find a show or movie you'd like to watch and click on it.
3. You'll now see that the **NP** (Netflix Party) icon has changed from gray to red. Click the icon and select **Start the party**. You'll become the host, so you can either select the option for you to be the only controller pausing and playing the show, or you can let anyone take control.
4. Copy the URL from the pop-up box and send it to everyone you want to invite to the group.
5. The chatroom will appear on the right side of the screen. From there, you'll be able to see when someone joins the party.
6. Now you can laugh, cry and howl with your family and friends, and feel a little less on your own.

Need more things to do during this time of social distancing? Here's free entertainment to help you get through coronavirus social distancing, 7 free video chat apps to use if you're social distancing and ways you can help during the coronavirus pandemic.

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