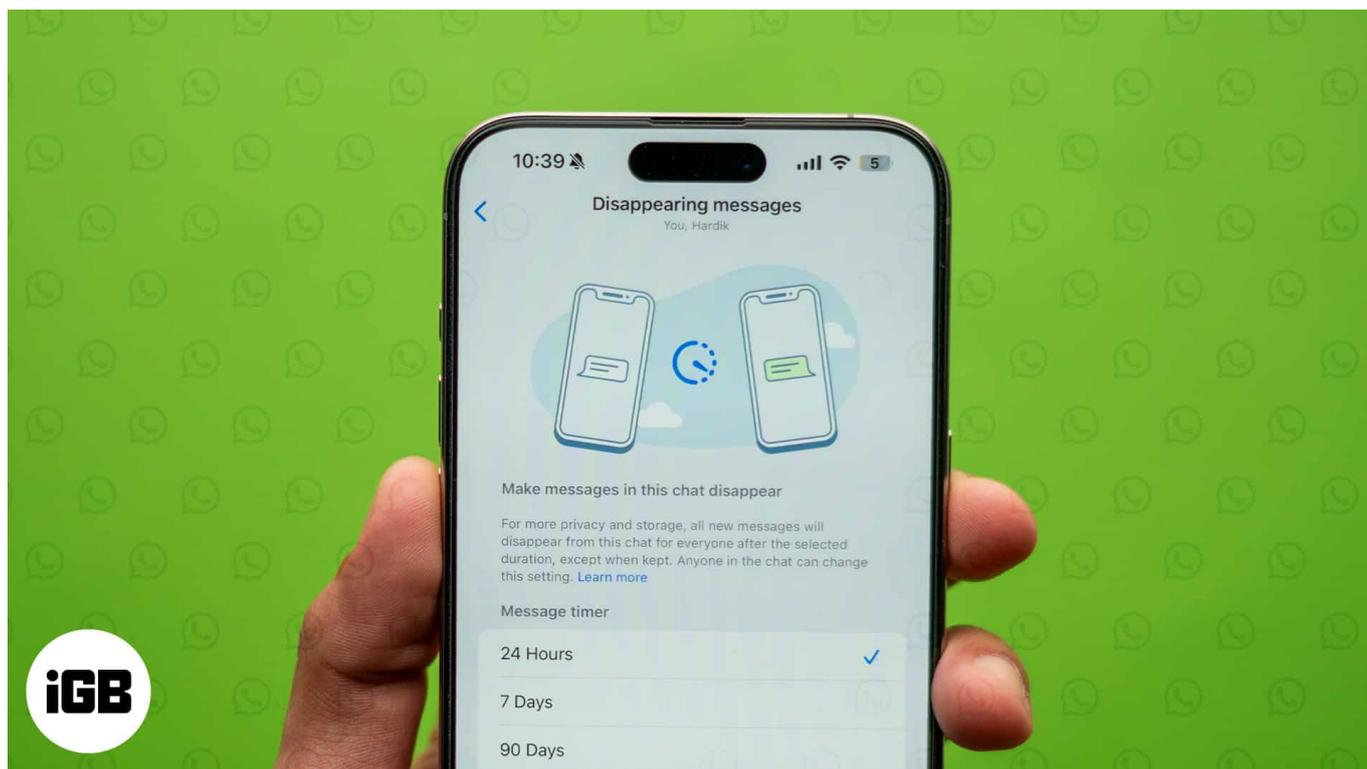Keeping your conversations private is essential, especially if you share confidential information. Thankfully, WhatsApp includes a disappearing messages feature, which is a fantastic way to make your chats a bit more private and temporary.

#image_title

Whether you're using your iPhone or desktop, this guide will walk you through enabling and managing disappearing messages with ease. Let's get to it.

Table of Contents

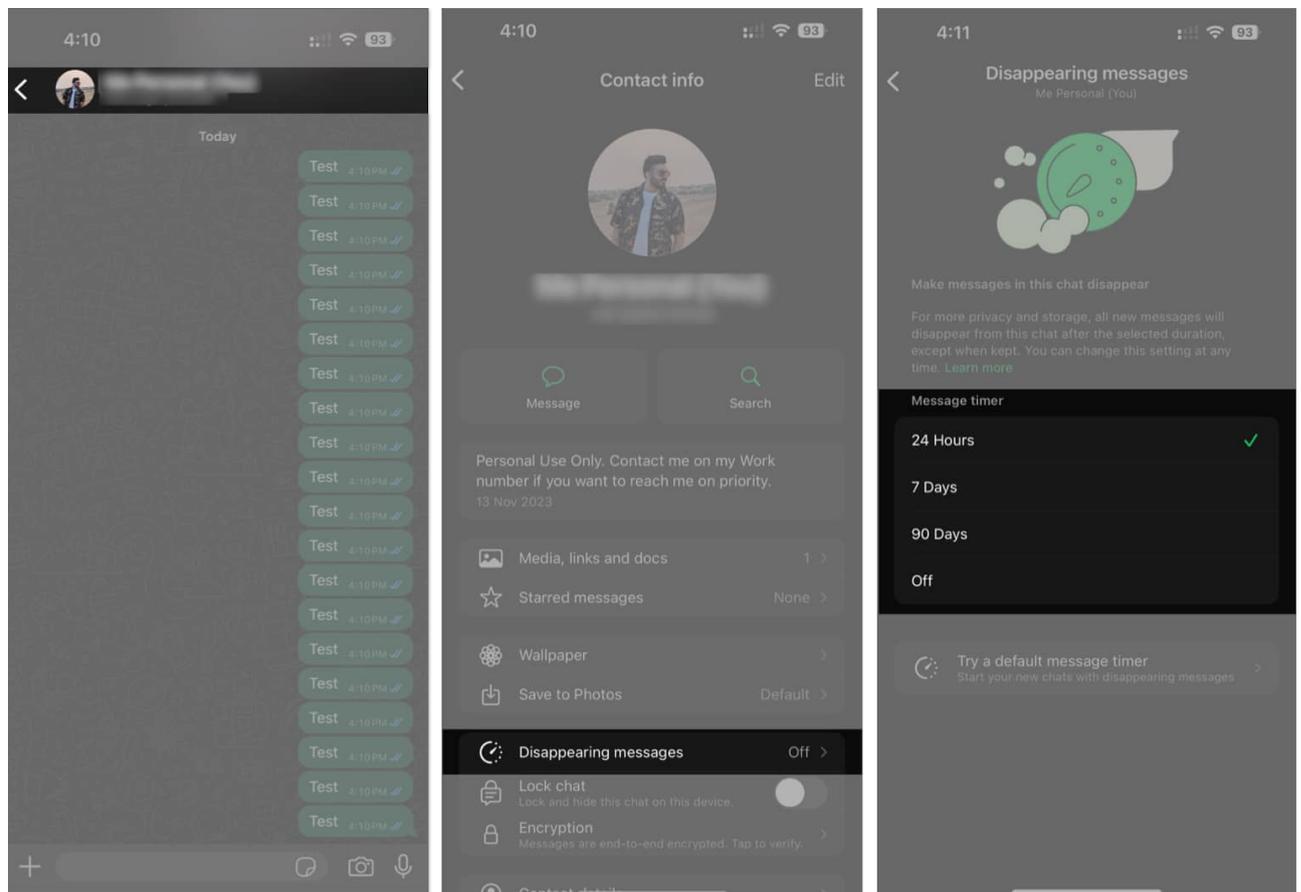# What is disappearing messages on WhatsApp?

Disappearing messages are one of the [many amazing features of WhatsApp](#). The way it

works is that it automatically deletes messages from a chat after a certain period. Once enabled, all new messages in the chat will vanish after a set time, ensuring that your conversations stay private and clutter-free. You can choose from 24 hours, 7 days, or 90 days. This can be especially useful for sensitive discussions or when you simply want to [keep your chat history tidy](#).

How to turn on or off disappearing messages in WhatsApp on iPhone

Now that you know what WhatsApp's Disappearing Messages feature is, here's how to enable it on your iPhone for chats.

1. Open **WhatsApp** on your iPhone and go to the chat where you want to enable disappearing messages.
2. Tap on the **contact's name** at the top of the chat screen to open the chat info.
3. Scroll down and tap on **Disappearing Messages**.
4. Now, select a timer of your choice. You can choose from either **24 hours**, **7 days**, or **90 days**.
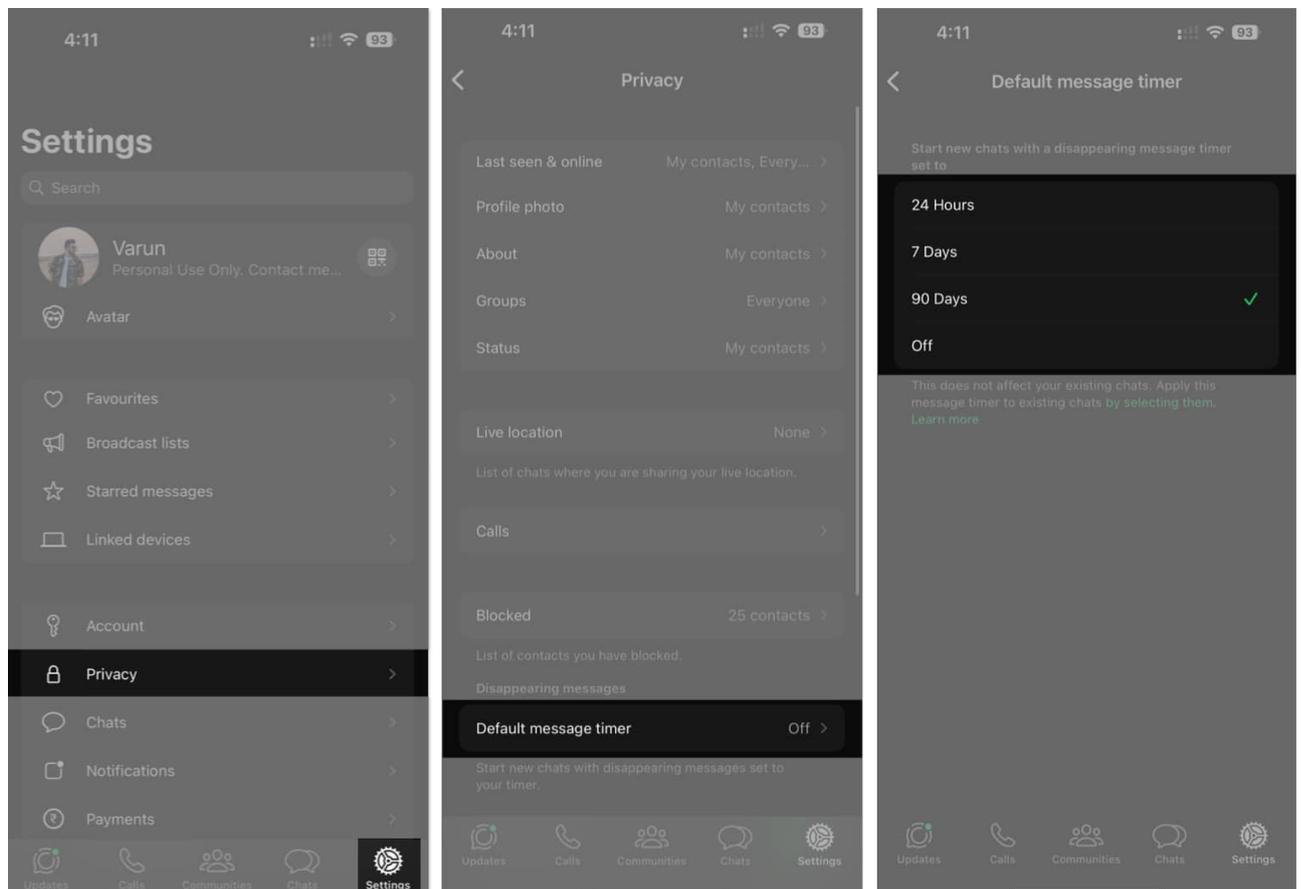
And that's it. Now, all new messages sent in this chat will disappear after the set period.

How to enable or disable disappearing messages in WhatsApp for all chats

While the above method applies for single chats, you can also set disappearing messages as default for all new chats. Here's how:

1. Open **WhatsApp** on your iPhone.
2. Navigate to **Settings → Privacy**.
3. Scroll down and tap on **Default Message Timer**.
4. Here, you can set the timer for disappearing messages for all new chats.
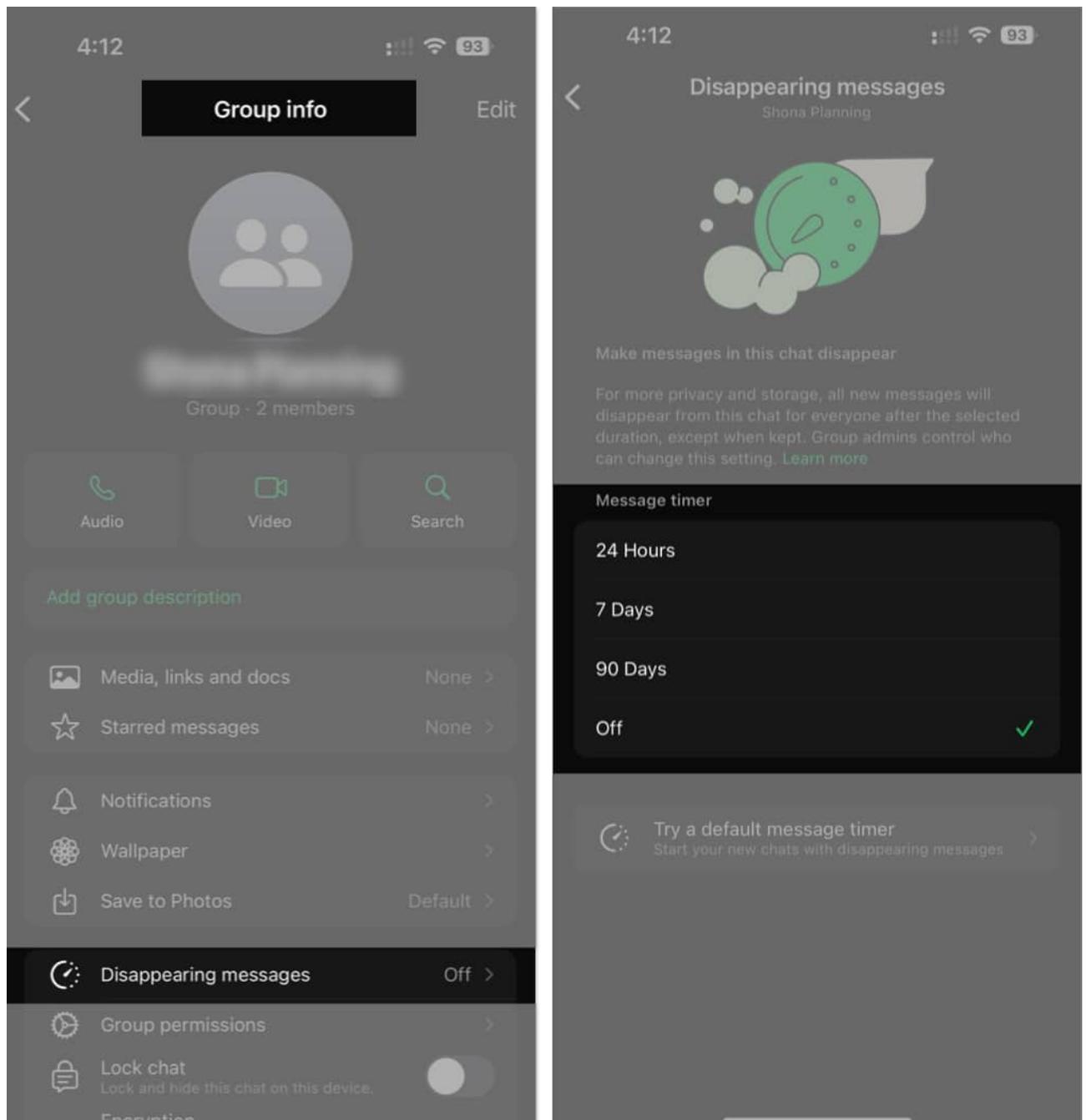
Once done, all new chats will start with disappearing messages. Once the timer runs down, the messages will automatically disappear.

How to enable or disable disappearing messages in WhatsApp group chats

Enabling disappearing messages in group chats is similar to doing it in individual chats. However, only group admins can change this setting. If you're the admin of a group, here's how to enable disappearing messages for that group on iPhone.

1. Open the group chat inside WhatsApp.
2. Tap on the group name at the top of the screen to access the group info.
3. Scroll down and select **Disappearing Messages**.
4. Finally, choose your preferred time.

And that's it. All future messages sent in the group will automatically disappear after the timer runs out.
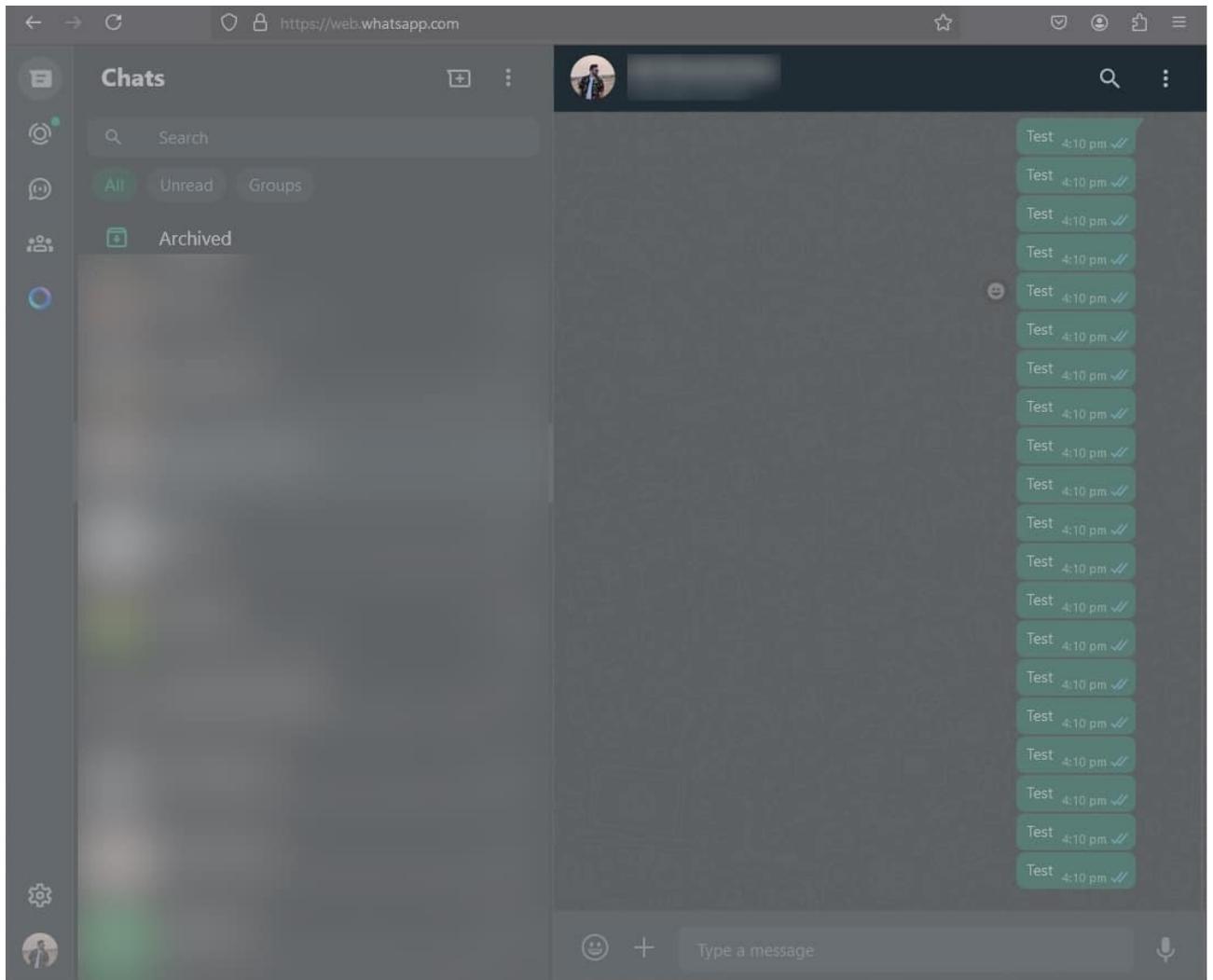
Note

This setting will apply to all participants in the group. However, only admins have the

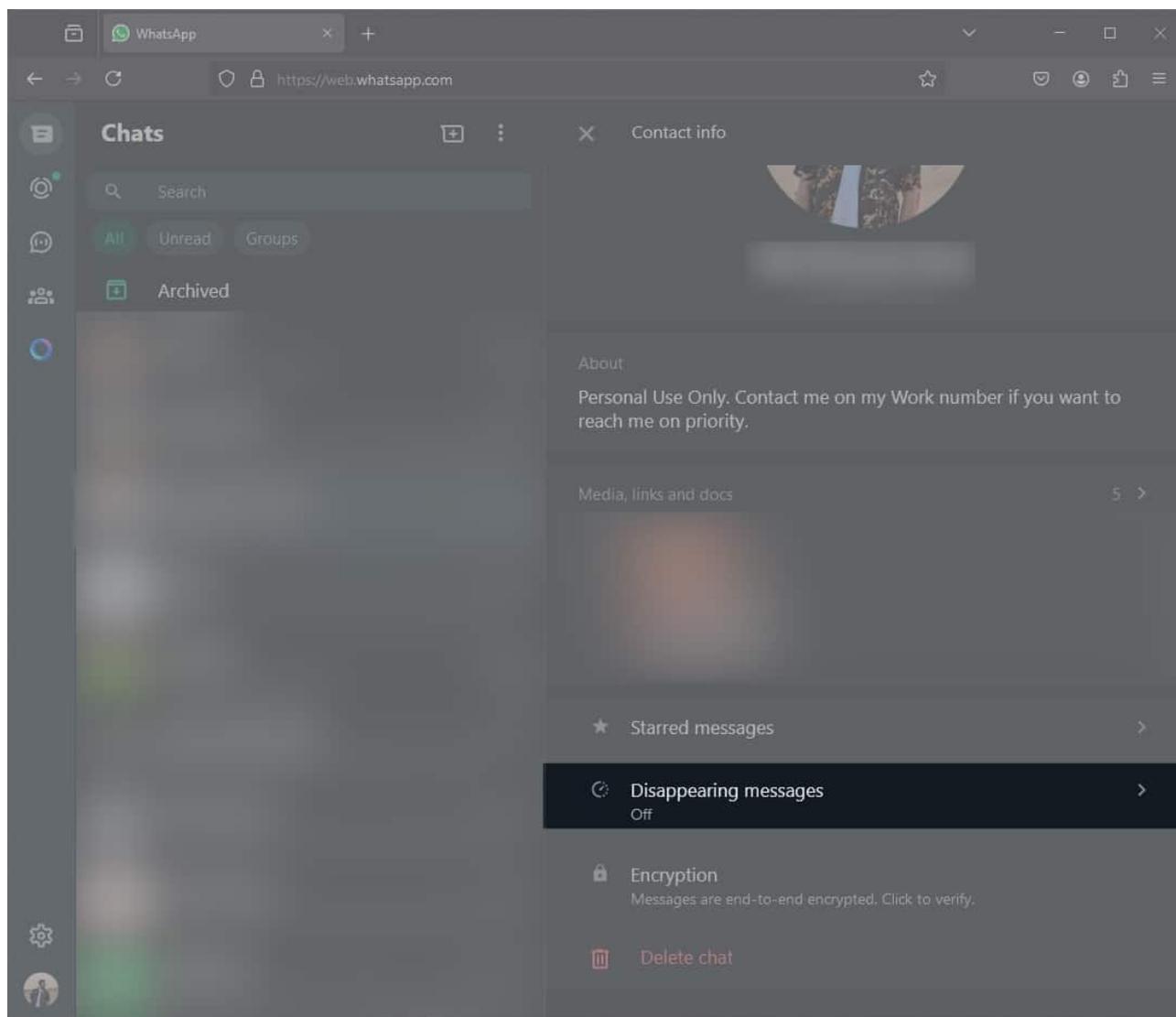power to make changes. As such, if there's another admin in the same group, they can change this setting.

How to enable disappearing messages in WhatsApp on desktop

If you're using WhatsApp on your desktop, you can still enjoy the disappearing messages feature. Here's how:
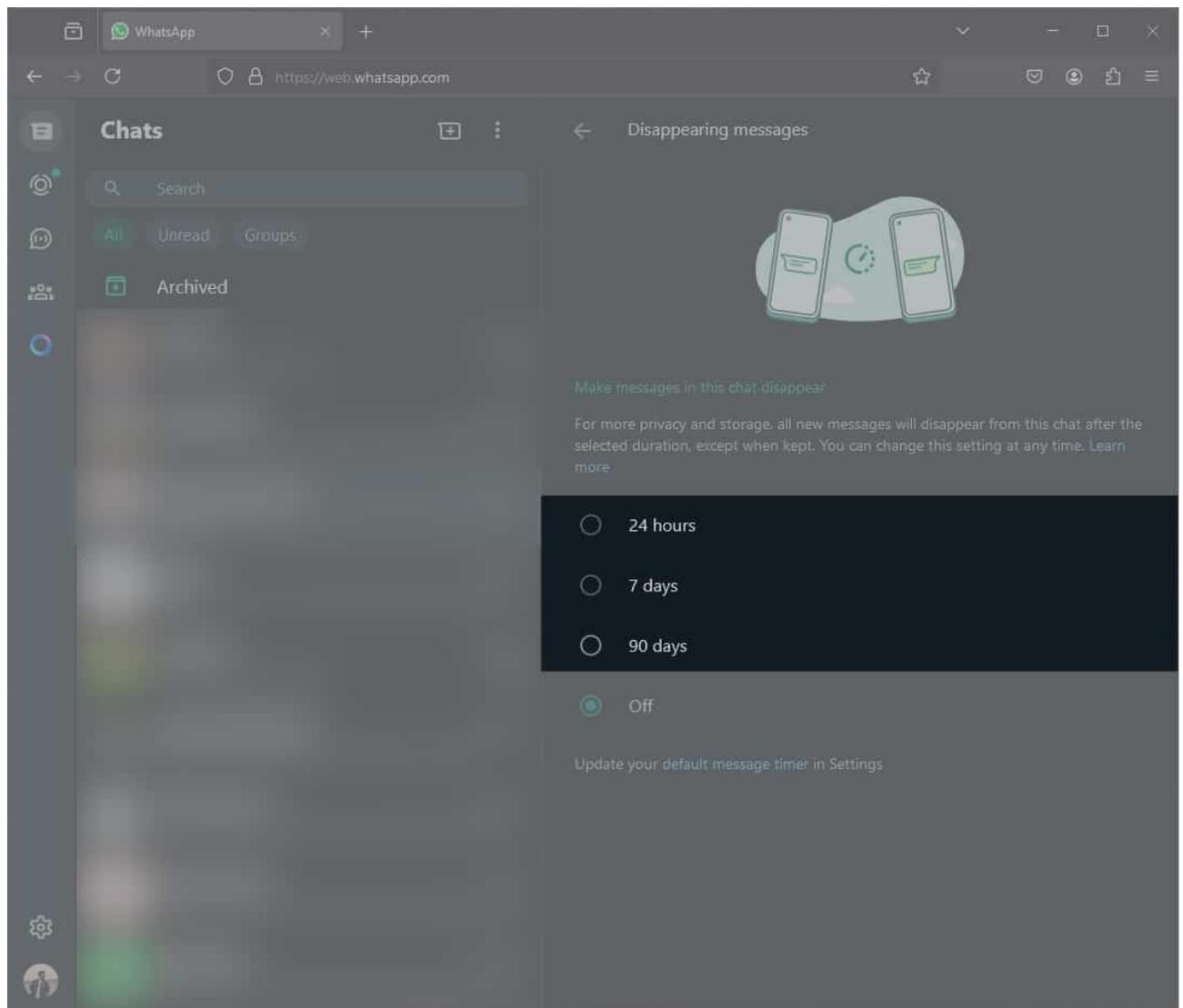
1. Open **WhatsApp Web** or the **WhatsApp Desktop app** and navigate to the chat where you want to enable disappearing messages.
2. Click on the **contact's name** at the top to open the chat info.

3. Scroll down and select **Disappearing Messages**.

4. Finally, select **24 hours**, **7 days**, or **90 days** as per your preferences.

Signing Off...

Disappearing messages on WhatsApp are a handy feature for those who value privacy or just want to keep their chat history minimal. The feature adds an extra layer of privacy to your WhatsApp chats. Whether you're using an iPhone or desktop, enabling this feature is a breeze, and now you can control which messages stay and which ones go.

FAQs

Can I recover disappearing messages on WhatsApp?

Unfortunately, disappearing messages cannot be recovered once they are gone. If you need to keep a record of the conversation, consider taking screenshots or saving important messages before they disappear. Additionally, while third-party recovery tools are available, they aren't recommended as they can compromise your account security.

Will media files sent in disappearing messages also be deleted?

Yes, media files like photos and videos sent in disappearing messages will also disappear from the chat after the set period. However, if the recipient has auto-download enabled, the media might still be saved on their device.

Read More on WhatsApp:

- How to schedule WhatsApp messages on iPhone
- How to save photos from WhatsApp on iPhone
- How to change your WhatsApp background wallpaper on an iPhone