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Key takeaways

- RCS is designed to replace traditional SMS, offering a more interactive messaging experience similar to iMessage.
- All iPhones running iOS 18 are compatible with RCS.
- To enable RCS messaging in iOS 18, go to Settings > Messages > Text Messaging, and toggle on RCS Messaging.

Rich Communication Services (RCS) enhances traditional SMS by introducing features like read receipts, high-resolution media sharing, and typing indicators. With the release of [iOS 18](), Apple has integrated RCS support into iPhones. So you can enjoy more seamless messaging with Android users. In this guide, I'll share how to enable RCS messaging on your iPhone.

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What is RCS messaging?

RCS, or Rich Communication Services, is a messaging protocol that aims to offer users an interactive and engaging messaging experience. It's meant to replace SMS and offers features similar to [Apple's iMessage](), such as read receipts, high-resolution multimedia sharing, emoji reactions, audio messages, and more.

RCS's biggest advantage is bridging the gap between Android and iPhone users. The best part is that it's native to both Android and iOS, so you don't need to install any third-party app to chat with your contacts over RCS. Even better, RCS messaging uses a data or Wi-Fi connection to send and receive messages.

Though all these features sounds great, iMessage has some advantages. Go through our detailed guide to learn about the [differences between RCS and iMessage]().

Which iPhones (and carriers) support RCS messaging?

Ideally, all iPhones running on iOS 18 will support RCS messaging. However, whether or not you'll be able to use RCS messaging on yours depends entirely upon your carrier.

Below, we've curated a list of iPhones and carriers in the U.S., Europe, the UK, and Canada that support RCS.

RCS-compatible iPhones:

- iPhone SE 2 and 3
- iPhone XR
- iPhone XS and XS Max
- iPhone 11, iPhone 11 Pro, and iPhone 11 Pro Max
- iPhone 12, iPhone 12 Mini, iPhone 12 Pro, iPhone 12 Pro Max
- iPhone 13, iPhone 13 Mini, iPhone 13 Pro, iPhone 13 Pro Max
- iPhone 14, iPhone 14 Plus, iPhone 14 Pro, iPhone 14 Pro Max
- iPhone 15, iPhone 15 Plus, iPhone 15 Pro, iPhone 15 Pro Max
- iPhone 16, iPhone 16 Plus, iPhone 16 Pro, iPhone 16 Pro Max

RCS-compatible carriers:

- **U.S.:** AT&T, T-Mobile, and Verizon
- **Canada:** Videotron, Telus Mobility, Bell, Fido, and Rogers

- **Germany:** O2
- **Spain:** Telefonica, Orange, Vodafone, and Yoigo
- **France:** SFR
- **UK:** Orange and T-Mobile

First, you must [update your iPhone to iOS 18](#) to set up and use RCS messaging.

How to enable RCS messaging in iOS 18

RCS will automatically activate on your iPhone once iOS 18 is installed. To double-check, follow these simple steps.

1. Open **Settings** on your iPhone.
2. Scroll down and tap **Apps**.
3. Select **Messages**.
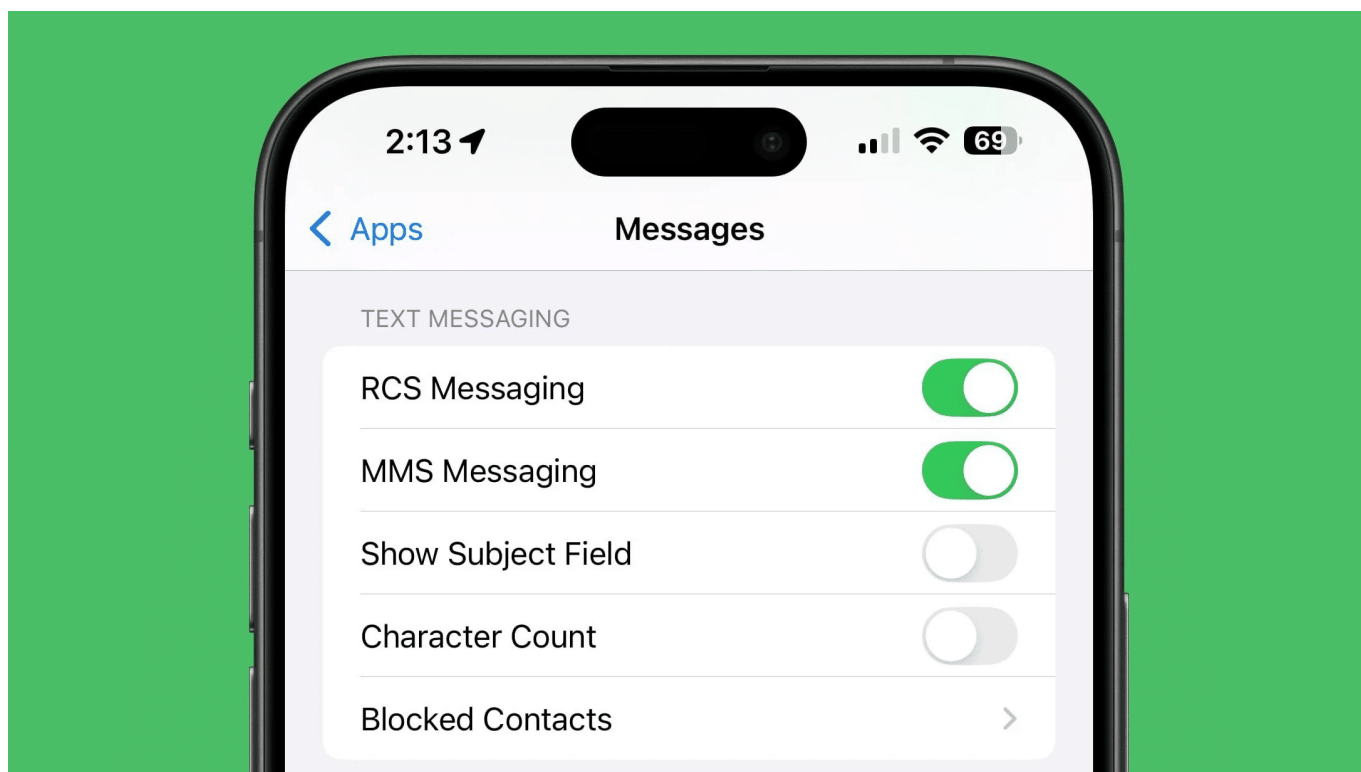4. Locate **RCS Messaging** under **Text Messaging** and toggle on the switch next to it.

Image Reddit
Note
If you don't see the RCS toggle, it's likely because you're not based in the mentioned regions or your carrier hasn't enabled RCS support for iPhones yet.

Signing off…

If you've installed the latest iOS 18 on your iPhone and your carrier has enabled support for RCS on iPhones, you should be able to chat with your Android friends over RCS. However, if you can't, it's probably because your carrier hasn't yet enabled RCS support for iPhones. In this case, you'll have to wait a little longer to use RCS on your iPhone.

Do you think bringing RCS messaging to iPhones will finally end the blue versus green bubble debate? We're all ears to hear from you.

FAQs

What if RCS messaging isn't working on your iPhone?

If you've updated your iPhone to the latest iOS 18 and your carrier supports RCS messaging, you can troubleshoot by toggling RCS off and on and restarting your device. If the issues persist, try contacting your carrier.

How do I disable RCS messaging if I don't want to use it?

You can disable RCS messaging by going to Settings > Apps > Messaging and turning off the **RCS Messaging** option.

Can you schedule messages on RCS?

No, you can't schedule RCS messages from the iPhone. The [Send Later feature](#) on iOS is only available for iMessage, not SMS or RCS texts.

How do you know your carrier supports RCS?

You can check your carrier's website or contact customer service to confirm whether they support RCS messaging.

Can you use both iMessage and RCS simultaneously?

Yes, you can use both iMessage and RCS simultaneously. iMessage is used to communicate with other Apple users, while RCS is used to message Android users and other RCS-compatible devices.

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Also Read:

- [What is Messages via Satellite in iOS 18 and how does it work?](#)
- [Prevent motion sickness with iOS 18 Vehicle Motion Cues feature](#)
- [How to turn on iOS 18 Eye Tracking on your iPhone](#)
- [How to fix RCS not working in iOS 18](#)