

## Joining Element: Detailed workflow

1. If you are already signed in: Sign out (⚠ cf. [1]) or go to a new private/incognito window in your browser.
2. Visit <https://matrix.to/#/#comm-net-24:studentchat.ethz.ch>
3. You see the message:  
"Preview this link using the [studentchat.ethz.ch](https://studentchat.ethz.ch) homeserver..." → click on "Continue"
4. Choose "Element" as the app and click on "Continue"
5. Click on "Continue in your browser"
6. You see the comm-net-24 space. Click on "Join"
7. You see "Sign in or create an account" and you click on "Sign in"
8. You see the *matrix.org* as the homeserver and are asked to enter your credentials: Click on "Edit" on the right-hand side of the homeserver and replace *matrix.org* with *studentchat.ethz.ch*; then, enter your ETH credentials.
9. Join all rooms in the comm-net-24 space: (problems with this step? → [2])
  - a. Go to "Rooms" on the left-hand side
  - b. Click on the "+" button at the right-hand side of "Rooms"
  - c. Click on "Explore rooms"
  - d. Select the room you want to join, e.g. "lectures"; now the room you joined appears under "Rooms"

Please don't hesitate to contact [comm-net@ethz.ch](mailto:comm-net@ethz.ch) if you encounter any issues, have questions, or feedback.

[1] If you sign out/in again, you may lose access to your encrypted messages, cf. cave-ats below.

[2] If you joined the space *from a different homeserver*, you cannot enter the rooms. (Example: you are logged with a *matrix.org* account → your profile address looks like <profile>:matrix.org instead of <profile>:studentchat.ethz.ch.) In this case, start the tutorial from step 1.

## Cave-ats

*Losing access to encrypted messages* We discovered an issue with the key backup in Element's implementation and are in contact with the Element developers:

As of now, it seems that you may lose access to encrypted messages after logging out and in again, *even if you connect your session to Element's key backup* (which should provide message restoration upon a new login). Therefore, as of now, we do not use encryption in our rooms, but hope that we can enable it at a later point.

*Warning on (group) DMs* DMs are, by default, encrypted (and this cannot be turned off). Due to the previous point, keep in mind that you may lose access to your DMs if you log out/in again. You can create unencrypted Private Rooms on the studentchat homeserver or manually back up encrypted messages.

### *How to use the space*

- Please join all rooms, and feel free to ask questions there.
- Please do not upload big files or objects (according to the ETH Matrix policy).
- Please use your full name as your nick name. If you want to only do this inside the commnet workspace, use the command "/myroomnick <your full name>" in each room. Example: "/myroomnick Laurent Vanbever" (spaces are allowed).