



B A M A J A

Secret Chat

Write what you mean.
Send something ordinary.

A short guide to sending a private message inside a message
that looks like nothing at all.

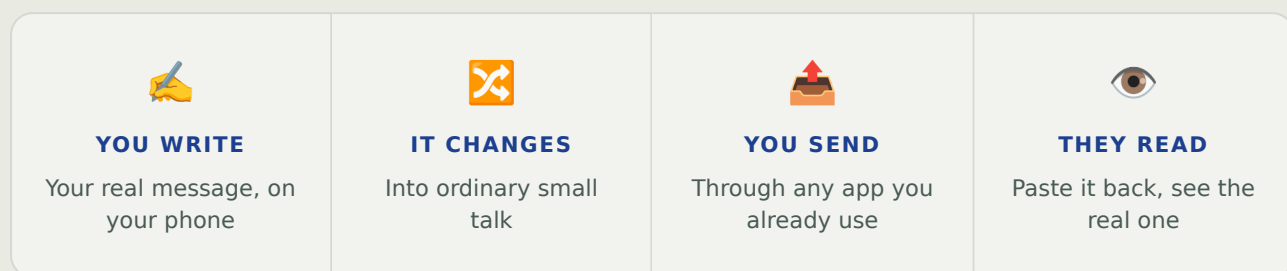
THE IDEA

Hiding a message beats locking it

WhatsApp already encrypts your messages. So does Signal. That protects what you wrote — but anyone looking at your phone still sees that you sent something you did not want read.

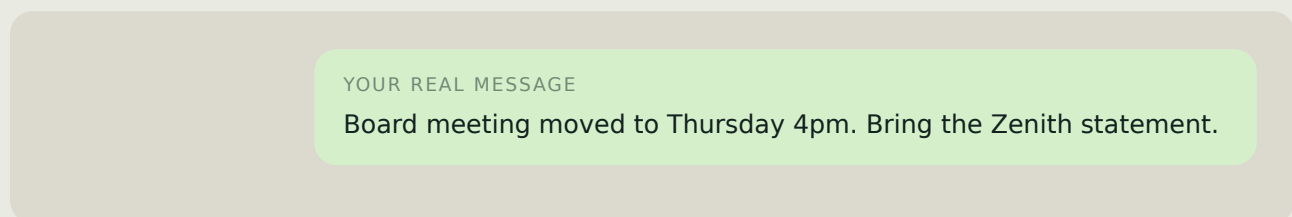
Secret Chat works the other way round. Your real message is turned into a block of ordinary chatter — the kind of thing people send every day. You send that. It goes through WhatsApp, SMS, Telegram, email, anywhere at all. Someone reading over your shoulder finds nothing worth asking about.

Only the person holding your conversation code can turn it back.

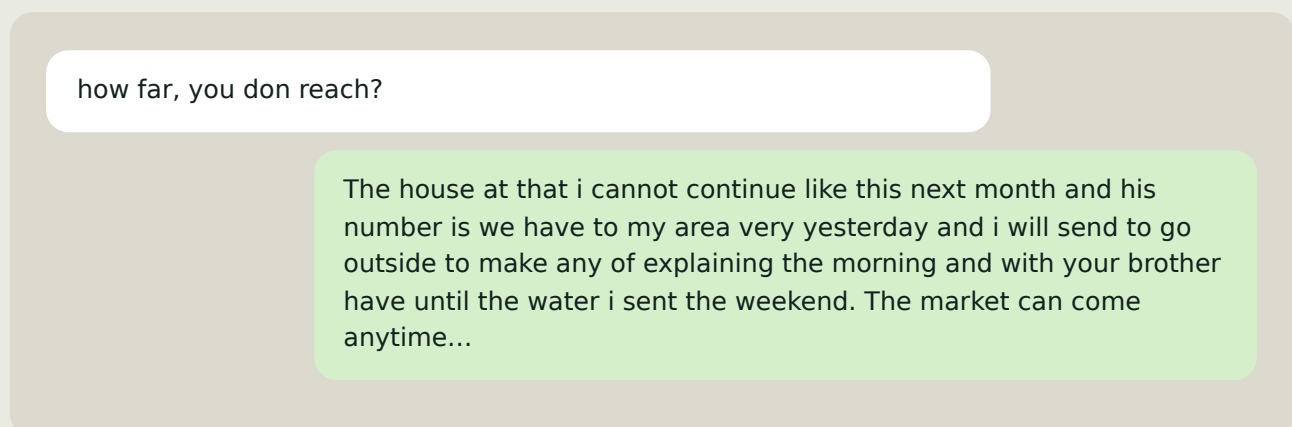


What it looks like

You type this:



You send this instead:



It is longer than what you wrote, and it rambles a little. That is the trade. Nobody screenshots a rambling message and asks what it means.

Setting up takes a minute

1 Open the app

Go to `private.bamaja.online` in your browser. There is nothing to download. If you want it on your home screen, use your browser's **Add to Home screen** — after that it opens like any app, and it still opens when your data is off.

2 Choose a passcode

Type it twice. This locks what is stored on your phone, so if someone picks up your handset they cannot read your conversations.

Nobody can reset it. There is no email, no SMS, no support line that can get you back in. Forget the passcode and everything on that phone is gone. Choose something you will still know next month.

3 Sign in to the service

Secret Chat is invitation only. Enter the username and password you were given — once, not every time. It is not the same as your passcode, and it does not let anyone read your messages. It only says who is allowed to use the service.

What the passcode does and does not do

- It stops the person who borrows or steals your phone.
- It will not stop a laboratory with your handset and time on its hands. A short passcode is a short passcode.
- It never leaves your phone. It is not sent anywhere, so there is nowhere for it to leak from.

Pairing with one person

A conversation needs a code that only you and one other person hold. Get this step right and everything else takes care of itself.

1 One of you makes the code

Tap **Start a conversation**, choose **I will give the code**, put in a name you will recognise, and tap **Make the code**. You get 24 characters in six groups:

7JE1 08QY 8G1H Q1P3 PFZ1 FXRD

There is no I, L, O or U in it, so nothing can be confused with 1 or 0.

2 The other person types it in

They tap **Start a conversation**, choose **I was given one**, and type the code. Upper or lower case, spaces or no spaces — it does not matter.

Do not send the code in the chat you plan to hide messages in.

Hand the phone over, or read it out on a call. A code sitting in the same WhatsApp thread is the one thing that would explain all the strange messages that come after it. Everything else about this app is designed so there is nothing to find — do not put the answer in the same place.

Where the code lives

Both phones end up holding the same secret. It never reaches our server, and there is no copy anywhere else. That is the whole point — but it also means that if **both** of you lose it, that conversation is finished. Nobody can bring it back.

Sending a message

1 Type what you actually mean

Open the conversation and write in the box at the bottom. Up to 400 characters. Shorter is better — the cover message grows with what you write, and a very long one starts to look odd.

2 Tap the arrow

Give it a moment. The app shows you the ordinary-looking message it built, laid out the way it will appear in a chat, so you can judge it before anyone else sees it.

3 Copy it and send it

Tap **Copy** or **Send it**, then paste into WhatsApp, SMS, wherever you were going to send it anyway.

Send the whole thing, exactly as it is.

Do not fix the spelling. Do not cut the last line. Do not add "hello" in front. Every word carries part of your real message, and changing one of them makes the whole thing unreadable at the other end.

Choosing how it reads

In **Settings** you can pick what the cover messages sound like — **Chatting**, **Work**, **Family** or **Market** — so it fits the thread you are sending into. You can also choose between **Shorter** and **More natural**. More natural reads closer to a real person but runs about twice as long.

If the two of you have picked different settings, nothing breaks. The reading phone works it out by itself and remembers.

Reading one

1 Copy the whole message

In WhatsApp, hold the message and copy it. Take all of it — first word to last.

2 Open the conversation and tap the paste arrow

Bottom left of the conversation screen. Paste what you copied.

3 Tap Reveal

The real message appears, and it stays in your thread so you do not have to do this twice.

If it says it cannot open the message

Work down this list. It is almost always the first one.

- **Something got cut.** Copy it again and take the whole message, including the last line.
- **It was edited.** If anyone corrected a word, it cannot be recovered. Ask them to send it again.
- **Wrong conversation.** A message only opens in the conversation it was written for.
- **It is your own message.** The app will tell you so. Only the person you paired with can open what you wrote.
- **The forwarding app changed it.** Some apps helpfully "fix" text. Sending as a plain message rather than a forward avoids it.

What this does not do

Any tool that tells you it is perfect is selling something. Here is where this one ends.

It hides that a message exists. It does not hide that you exist.

Your phone talks to our service to build the cover text, and you sign in to do it. So the service knows that your username asked for cover text at a particular time — and that is all it knows. It cannot see what you wrote, who you wrote to, or which conversation it belonged to. If the fact that you use a tool like this is itself the danger, this is not the right tool.

The cover text passes a glance, not a study.

It reads like someone typing carelessly. A person scrolling past will think nothing of it. Somebody who sits down with it and studies the writing may well notice it is strange. We are improving this, and we will not pretend it is already solved.

Nobody outside Bamaja has tried to break it yet.

The encryption underneath is the ordinary, well-tested kind. The part that hides it inside everyday sentences is new work, and it has not been through outside review. Treat it as good cover, not as armour.

A seized phone that is already unlocked is readable.

The passcode protects a locked phone. It does not protect one taken out of your hand while you are using it.

Know the law where you are.

Hiding messages is ordinary and legal in most places. In some countries it is not, and in some situations refusing to hand over a key is itself an offence. That is on you to check.

Quick answers

Can Bamaja read my messages?

No, and not because we promise not to. Your phone encrypts the message before anything is sent. What reaches our service is a block of random-looking bytes, and no part of the service accepts a readable message, a passcode or a conversation code. There is nothing to hand over and nothing to leak.

Then what does the sign-in tell you about me?

That your username asked for cover text, and when. Not what you wrote, not who you wrote to, not which conversation it belonged to. The sign-in exists so the service is not open to the whole internet, and so an account can be switched off.

Why is the cover message so much longer than what I wrote?

Because your real message has to be spread across enough ordinary words to carry it. Roughly ten to twelve times the length. This is built for short messages — a time, a place, a number, an instruction.

Does it work on WhatsApp, SMS and Telegram?

Yes. It is only text, so it goes anywhere text goes. It even works read out loud, though nobody enjoys that.

Do we both need to be online?

Only at the moment of writing or reading. The app opens and shows your old messages with no data at all.

Can I use one code with three people?

No. One code is one pair. Make a separate conversation for each person — that way, one code going missing does not open the rest.

Does it work on a small phone and slow data?

Yes. It was built for that. No videos, no heavy graphics, nothing loading from anywhere else.

What if I lose my phone?

Whoever finds it meets your passcode. Your conversations are not recoverable to a new phone — there is no backup on our side, by design. Pair again on the new one.

How do I get rid of everything?

Settings, then **Forget everything on this phone**. It clears the conversations, the codes and the passcode. It cannot be undone and it does not touch the other person's phone.

REMEMBER THESE THREE

- Never send the pairing code in the chat you hide messages in.
- Send the cover message whole and unedited.
- Lose the passcode, lose the phone's conversations. Nobody can reset it.