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Terence Eden's Blog









SIP on Android - Sipgate and Linphone

By @edent on 2023-04-07 · #android #sip #voip · 2 comments · 350 words · Read ~371 times.



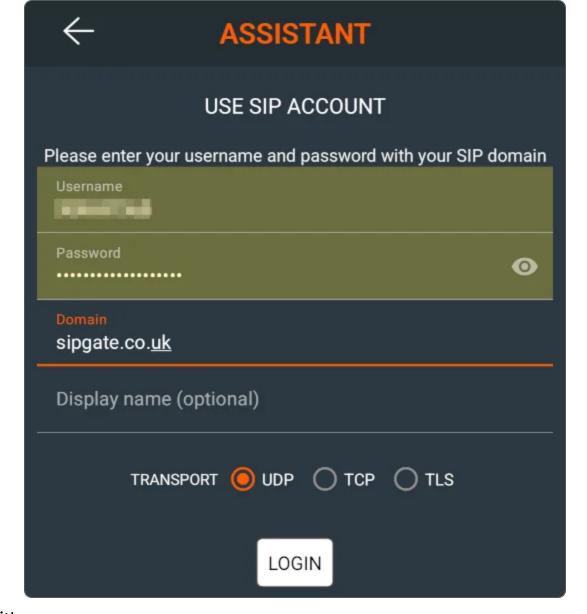
Three years ago, I wrote about how you could <u>add SIP calls to Android for free</u>. Android had a well-integrated system which made VoIP calling a first-class citizen on its handsets.

Sadly, Google killed native SIP calling in Android 12. FFS!

It's relatively easy to get it set up again, although you'll need to install a separate app.

- 01. Sign up for a <u>free Sipgate account</u>. That will get you a UK phone number (+44), username, and password.
- 02. Install <u>Linphone for Android</u> (or via <u>F-Droid</u>)

Setting up Linphone should be straightforward. Enter your Sipgate username (a mix of letters and numbers) and password. The server is sipgate.co.uk . Finally, you *must* select UDP from the transport options.



And... that's it!

You can now call my SIP number from any phone ± 441234815259 . It gets routed to Sipgate, which then notifies the app on my phone, which rings, and I can answer.

Sadly, because the native Android dialler doesn't support SIP - it's impossible to choose your SIP account when dialling. So you have to remember to open the Linphone app each time.

Why did Google remove SIP?

Because they're evil and they hate open standards which enable interoperability? Nah 1 .

Because mobile network operators are terrified of losing even the tiniest sliver of voice revenue? Nah¹.

I suspect it was because close to zero people were using it. If you want to make a VoIP call, most people are using WhatsApp, Signal, Telegram, etc. I don't think I've *ever* seen someone advertising a SIP address in the wild.

It would be lovely if the big apps made even a vague attempt at interoperability. There's no technical reason why user@whatsapp.com can't place a call to user@telegram.org. But

they're more interested in a "winner-takes-all" mentality rather than a collaborative effort which uplifts everyone.

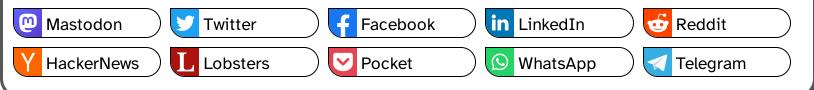
Oh well.



01. Well, OK, maybe a *little* bit. <u>←</u> ←



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2 thoughts on "SIP on Android - Sipgate and Linphone"

Bernard Marx says:

2023-04-07 13:52

<u>@Edent</u> Linphone was recently intermittently wiping out my configuration which was a pain to set up again every time. Maybe they fixed it, but I switched to https://www.sipnetic.com/ which has been solid and easier setup.

If you are in the US, voip.ms is cheap but has KYC and requires some time investment to setup. Jmp.chat is much easier and a little more expensive at \$3/month per number. Other option are here: https://kycnot.me/services#SMS
Sipnetic | SIP Client for Android

Reply

Nader says:

2023-04-08 01:48

I think Google also removed SIP simply because it was too technical for the average Joe. Expecting normal Android users to understand STUN, different codecs or TCP vs UDP could be asking too much. Plus, like you mentioned, using an app probably works just as well in most cases and many are already doing that.

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| 2023 | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <u>January</u> <u>31 posts</u> | <u>February</u> 28 posts | March 31 posts | | | | | | |
| <u>April</u> 30 posts | <u>May</u> 27 posts | June | | | | | | |
| July | August | September | | | | | | |
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| | 2022 | |
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| <u>January</u> | February | <u>March</u> |
| <u>30 posts</u> | 23 posts | 15 posts |
| <u>April</u> | <u>May</u> | <u>June</u> |
| 19 posts | 19 posts | 19 posts |
| <u>July</u> | August | September |
| 19 posts | 18 posts | 12 posts |
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| October | November | December | | October 8 posts | November 30 posts | December 31 posts | | |
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| 2021 | | | ſ | 2020 | | | | |
| <u>January</u> | February | March | | <u>January</u> | February | March | | |
| <u>31 posts</u> | 28 posts | 31 posts | | <u>31 posts</u> | 29 posts | 31 posts | | |
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| 30 posts | 31 posts | 30 posts | | 30 posts | 31 posts | 30 posts | | |
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| October | November | December | | October | November | December | | |
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| | 2019 | | ſ | | 2018 | | | |
| January | February | March | | <u>January</u> | February | March | | |
| 31 posts | 12 posts | 17 posts | | <u>8 posts</u> | 4 posts | 6 posts | | |
| <u>April</u> | May | <u>June</u> | | <u>April</u> | <u>May</u> | <u>June</u> | | |
| 12 posts | 12 posts | 10 posts | | 14 posts | 5 posts | 6 posts | | |
| <u>July</u> 7 posts | August 5 posts | September 6 posts | | <u>July</u> <u>6 posts</u> | August 13 posts | September 14 posts | | |
| October 14 posts | November 30 posts | December 17 posts | | October 8 posts | November 30 posts | December 4 posts | | |
| | 2017 | | ſ | | 2016 | | | |
| <u>January</u> | February | March | | <u>January</u> | February | March | | |
| 12 posts | 9 posts | 8 posts | | 10 posts | 10 posts | 11 posts | | |
| <u>April</u> | May | <u>June</u> | | <u>April</u> | May | <u>June</u> | | |
| 4 posts | 10 posts | <u>5 posts</u> | | 9 posts | 8 posts | 9 posts | | |
| <u>July</u> <u>5 posts</u> | August 6 posts | September 3 posts | | <u>July</u> <u>6 posts</u> | August 9 posts | September 4 posts | | |
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| October 4 posts | November 30 posts | December | | October 2 posts | November 30 posts | <u>December</u> <u>14 posts</u> | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|------------------|---|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
| 2015 | | | Ī | 2014 | | | | |
| January | February | March | | <u>January</u> | February | March | | |
| 8 posts | 11 posts | 10 posts | | 13 posts | 13 posts | 15 posts | | |
| <u>April</u> | May | June | | <u>April</u> | May | June | | |
| 4 posts | 9 posts | 3 posts | | 14 posts | 8 posts | 7 posts | | |
| <u>July</u> | August | September | | <u>July</u> | August | September | | |
| 7 posts | 9 posts | 10 posts | | 9 posts | 5 posts | 5 posts | | |
| October 2 posts | November 30 posts | December 4 posts | | October 1 post | November 30 posts | December 20 posts | | |
| | 2013 | | | | 2012 | | | |
| <u>January</u> | February | March | | <u>January</u> | February | March | | |
| <u>25 posts</u> | 17 posts | 15 posts | | 14 posts | 8 posts | 13 posts | | |
| <u>April</u> | <u>May</u> | <u>June</u> | | <u>April</u> | May | <u>June</u> | | |
| 18 posts | 11 posts | 14 posts | | 15 posts | 10 posts | 16 posts | | |
| <u>July</u> | August | September | | <u>July</u> | August | September | | |
| <u>6 posts</u> | 14 posts | 6 posts | | <u>8 posts</u> | 8 posts | 6 posts | | |
| October | November | December | | October | November | December | | |
| 4 posts | 30 posts | 14 posts | | 6 posts | 30 posts | 31 posts | | |
| | 2011 | | | | 2010 | | | |
| <u>January</u> | February | March | | <u>January</u> | February | March | | |
| 13 posts | 11 posts | 11 posts | | <u>6 posts</u> | 15 posts | 12 posts | | |
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| 12 posts | 8 posts | <u>8 posts</u> | | 13 posts | 4 posts | <u>3 posts</u> | | |
| <u>July</u> | August | September | | <u>July</u> | August | September | | |
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| October 7 posts | November 30 posts | December 17 posts | October 9 posts | November 30 posts | December 9 posts | | |
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| 2009 | | | 2008 | | | | |
| <u>January</u> <u>1 post</u> | February 5 posts | March 3 posts | <u>January</u> 2 posts | February | March 2 posts | | |
| <u>April</u> 7 posts | May 12 posts | <u>June</u> <u>8 posts</u> | <u>April</u> 3 posts | May 2 posts | June | | |
| <u>July</u> 10 posts | August 10 posts | September 12 posts | <u>July</u> 1 post | August 3 posts | September 1 post | | |
| October 22 posts | November 31 posts | December 15 posts | October 3 posts | November 2 posts | December 1 post | | |
| | 2007 | | | 2006 | | | |
| January | February | March | January | February | March | | |
| April | May | June | <u>April</u> 1 post | May | June | | |
| July | August | September | July | August | September | | |
| October | November 4 posts | December 5 posts | October | November 1 post | December | | |
| | 2005 | | | 2004 | | | |
| January | February | March 1 post | January | February | March | | |
| April | May | June | April | <u>May</u> 5 posts | <u>June</u> <u>3 posts</u> | | |
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| October | November | December | | October | November | December |
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| | 2003 | | | | 2002 | |
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| April | May | June | | <u>April</u> 3 posts | May | June |
| July | August | September | | July | August | September |
| October | November | December | | October | November | December |
| 2001 | | | | | 2000 | |
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| <u>July</u> 1 post | August | September | | July | August | September |
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| | 1999 | | | | 1997 | |
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