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Korea P2P Test FAQ



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Frequently Asked Questions

What is Peer-to-peer (P2P) technology?

P2P is used to effectively deliver HD content by leveraging the distributed computing power of viewers. With the use of P2P, viewers can share video content from each other if they are watching the same stream.

What is this experierment about?

From 23 July, we will trial the use of P2P for source quality with selected partner channels.

How does P2P work?

Viewers will be matched automatically with each other for P2P sharing if they are watching the same stream.

Why is Twitch using P2P?

Our goal has always been to make Twitch the best place for Korean streamers to build their careers and for communities to form around their passions. We are deeply committed to the local community in Korea and delivering the highest quality service is of the utmost importance to us.

With that in mind, Twitch has always complied with local regulations and requirements in Korea and must continue to do so. However, the associated rising costs of operating in Korea means we must work with the community to find a solution that enables us to continue to operate and deliver the best experience for our creators and their communities.

As such, we will trial the use of P2P for source quality in an experiment with the help of select partner channels and their communities. While many other providers and platforms successfully use P2P currently, this trial will allow us to finetune our approach and determine the best way forward to sustainably serve the needs of our community.

Do I need to download anything for P2P to work?

No, the use of P2P in this experiment is browser-based (or web-based), so no additional installation is necessary.

Will P2P be applied across all platforms? (e.g. PC, mobile, etc.)

Please note that this test phase applies for web-only.

How will P2P benefit viewers?

Through P2P, viewers will be able to continue to view a stream in the highest possible quality.

Can I disable the use of P2P?

For viewers, the use of P2P means that they view a stream in the highest possible quality. However, using P2P for viewers is optional, and you can choose to continue watching Twitch at 720p or below.

How does peer-to-peer impact my privacy?

In order to create a peer-to-peer (P2P) connection, it is necessary for Twitch to make the IP address of each participant available to the other. It may be possible for a highly motivated and technically proficient person to discover participants' IP addresses, which could potentially be used to approximate location. Viewers who have privacy concerns with P2P can watch streams in 720p to avoid any IP sharing risk.

Is Twitch only going to be using P2P in Korea?

Due to the unique and associated rising costs of operating in Korea, we must work with the community to find a solution that enables us to continue to operate and still deliver the best experience for the community.

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