

# Help

# What is this app?

Chemical X is a two-step verification app, similar to the likes of Google Authenticator and Authy (but much better).

# What's two-step verification?

Chemical X adds an extra layer of security to your online accounts by adding a second step of verification when you sign in. This means that in addition to your password, you'll also need to enter a code that is generated by the Chemical X app on your devices. This makes your account more secure, because even if someone guesses that account's password, they won't be able to log in without a code from Chemical X.

#### Which online accounts support two-step verification?

Many popular websites, such as Google, Twitter, Amazon, and more, support two-step verification. Check out 2fa.directory for a pretty comprehensive list of websites that support two-step verification.

#### How is this different from getting a two-step code via SMS?

SMS-based two-step verification is generally considered to be less secure than using an authenticator app. It's also less convenient, because SMS delivery can be slow under poor network conditions. Step Two generates two-step codes on its own, rather than receiving them from the network. This means your two-step codes are always available the instant you need them.

# How do I use Chemical X with my Google, Twitter, Amazon, or some other online account?

If your online account supports two-step verification with authenticator apps, you'll typically need to do the following:

- 1. Go to your account's security settings and turn on two-step verification.
- 2. Next, you'll be asked to scan a QR code with an authenticator app. You can do this in Chemical X by opening the app.
- 3. After scanning the QR code, you'll see the account get added to Chemical X, and the app will start generating two-step codes. The next time you log in to your account, you'll need to enter a two-step code along with your username and password. Two-step codes are only valid for 30 seconds, so you'll see them change pretty frequently.

For more specific instructions on setting up two-step verification with a particular account, check that account's support website.

#### How do I add my accounts to other devices?

To add an account to another device, you'll need to do the following:

- 1. On the device that has the account, tap the 🕻 bottom-right button.
- 2. Copy the provided Secret Key.
- 3. On the other device, tap "Type".
- 4. Paste the Secret Key on the other device.

# What's a Secret Key?

When you scan a QR code to set up two-step verification, that QR code contains a Secret Key. A Secret Key is like a password that is only known by your online account and Chemical X. That Secret Key is then fed into an algorithm that generates two-step codes. Anyone who knows your Secret Key can generate two-step codes to log in to your account, so never share two-step QR codes with anyone.