

Skype

By Dick Evans

Skype is a free application that can be used to call anyone in the world that has the same app installed on their computer. You talk like you were on the phone, but using the computer's speaker and microphone. If you have a video camera, you can also see the other person and they can see you. If not they get to see a picture of you that you have added to our Skype profile.



The banner features the Skype logo in the top left, followed by navigation links: Features, Get Skype, Prices, Accessories, Business, and Support. A search bar is on the right. The main content area is split into two columns. The left column has the heading "Skype for Windows" and the text "Instant message your Facebook friends from Skype, and have more fun with animated emoticons." Below this is a "Download now" button and three emoticon icons. The right column contains three promotional boxes: "Skype Subscriptions" with a woman on a phone, "50% off an Online Number" with a woman holding a phone, and "Skype for Windows" with a laptop icon. In the background, there are screenshots of the Skype interface showing a contact list and a chat window with a Facebook integration button.

Simply go to www.skype.com and download the FREE version.



This section compares Skype Free and Skype Premium. On the left, under the "Skype Free" logo, it lists "New features:" including video calling on Facebook, instant messaging with Facebook friends, and smarter call controls. A "Download Skype" button is at the bottom. On the right, under the "Skype Premium" logo, it shows a price of "\$4.49/month¹" (regular price \$8.99) with a "up to 50% off" badge. Below this, it lists "All the great free features PLUS:" including group video calls (up to 10 people), unlimited calls to phones in the US and Canada, and a 30% discount on an HD webcam. A "Get Skype Premium" button is at the bottom. To the right of the text is an image of a computer monitor displaying a video call with two participants, a keyboard, and a mouse.

Unless you have a need to call cell phones or house phone for people that do not have Skype, do not pay for the service. And people with Smartphone's can even install a Skype app for their phone so can contact them as well for free.

Create an account or sign in

It only takes a minute or two - then you'll be ready to call your friends for free once you've downloaded and installed Skype.

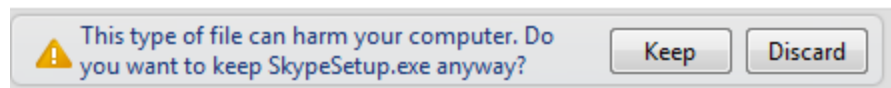
[Sign in](#)

[Create an account](#)

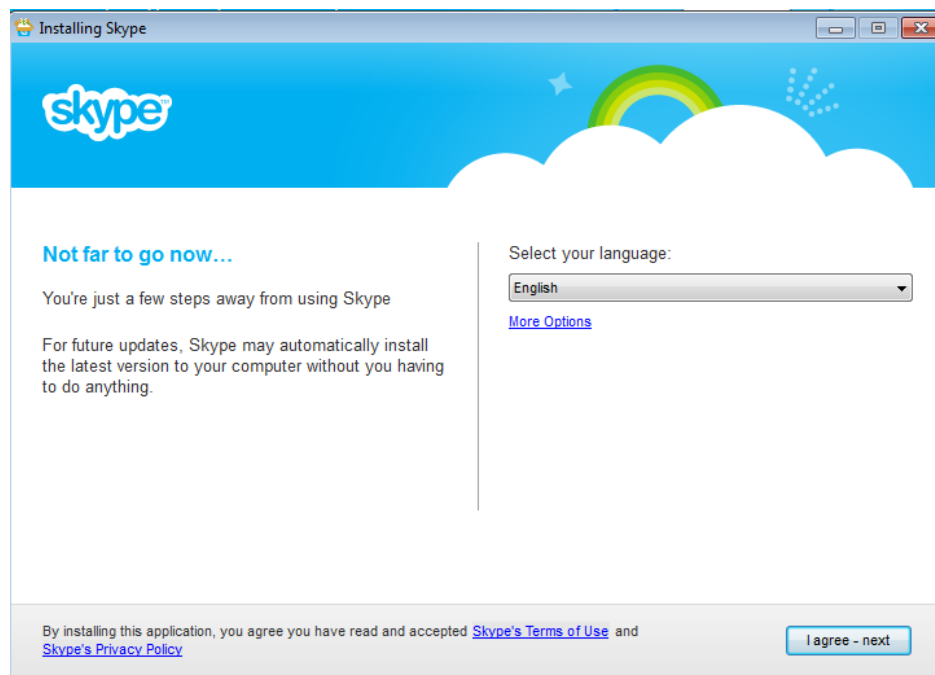
First name*	Last name*
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Your email address*	Repeat email*
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Note: no one can see your email address.

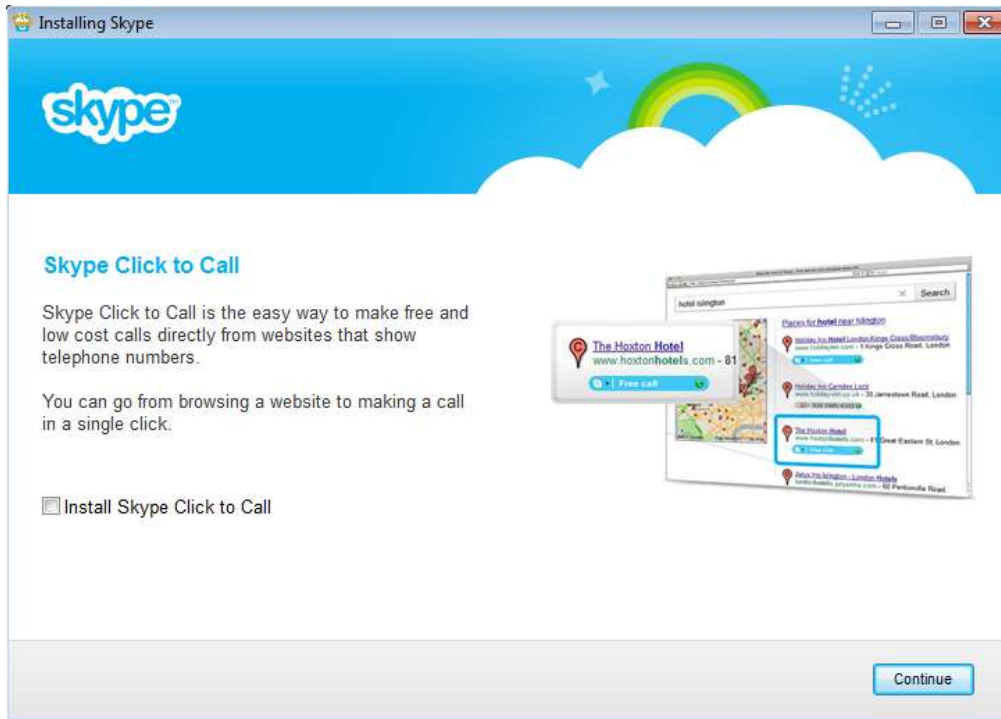
Click Download now and fill out the forms. Be sure to write down your Skype name and password. Others can contact you using your Skype name or the email address you used when you sign up.



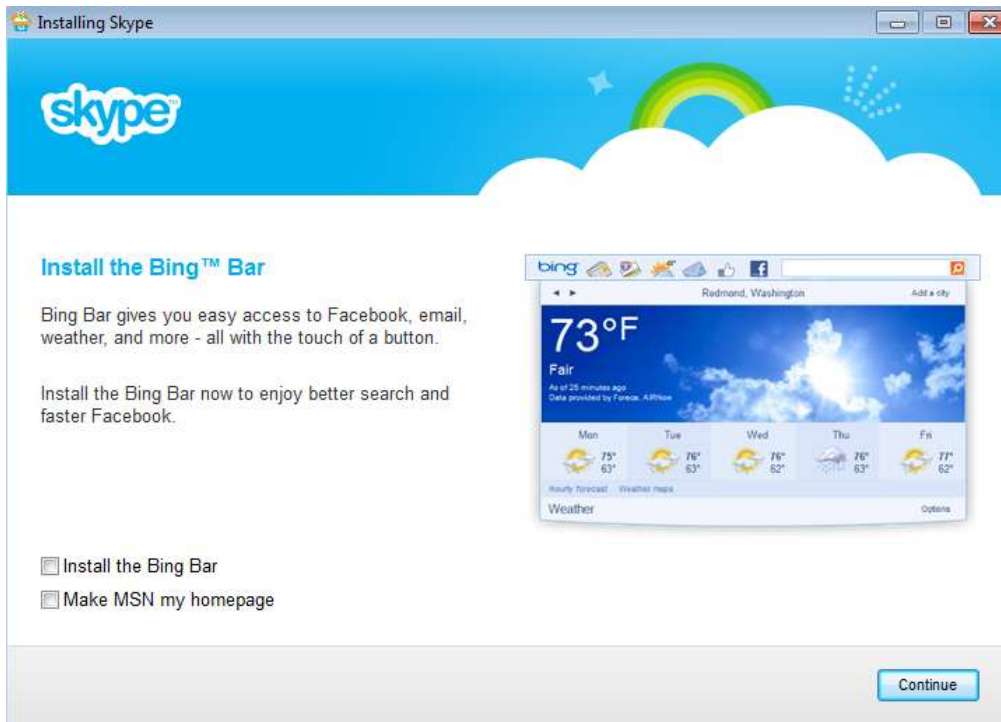
Allow the download of an executable app (your screen may be different as I am using Chrome)



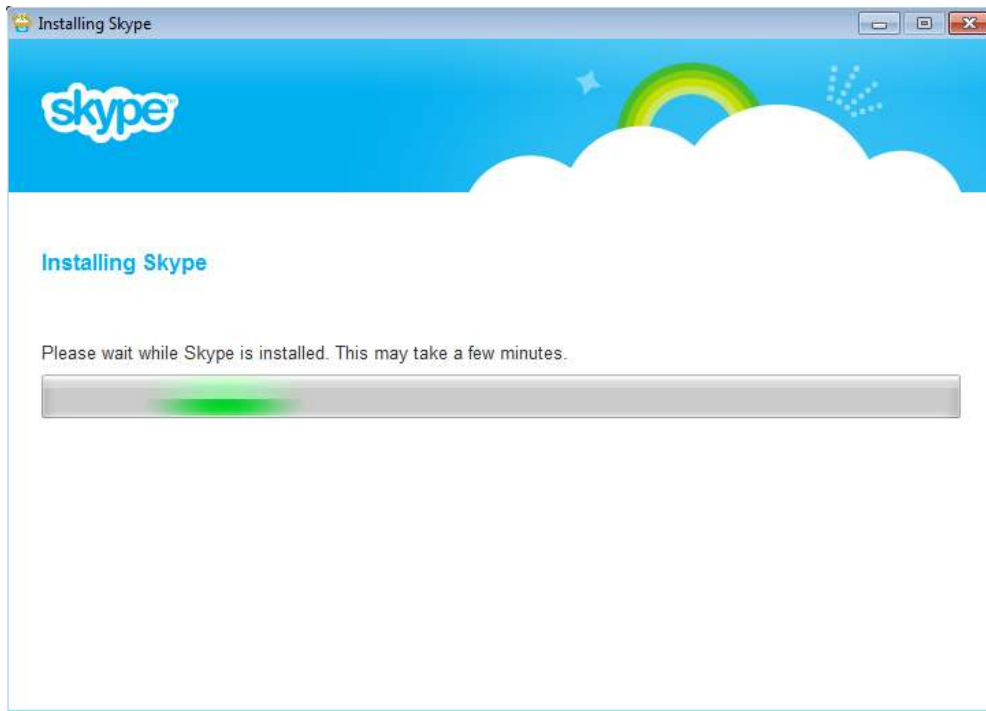
I agree – next



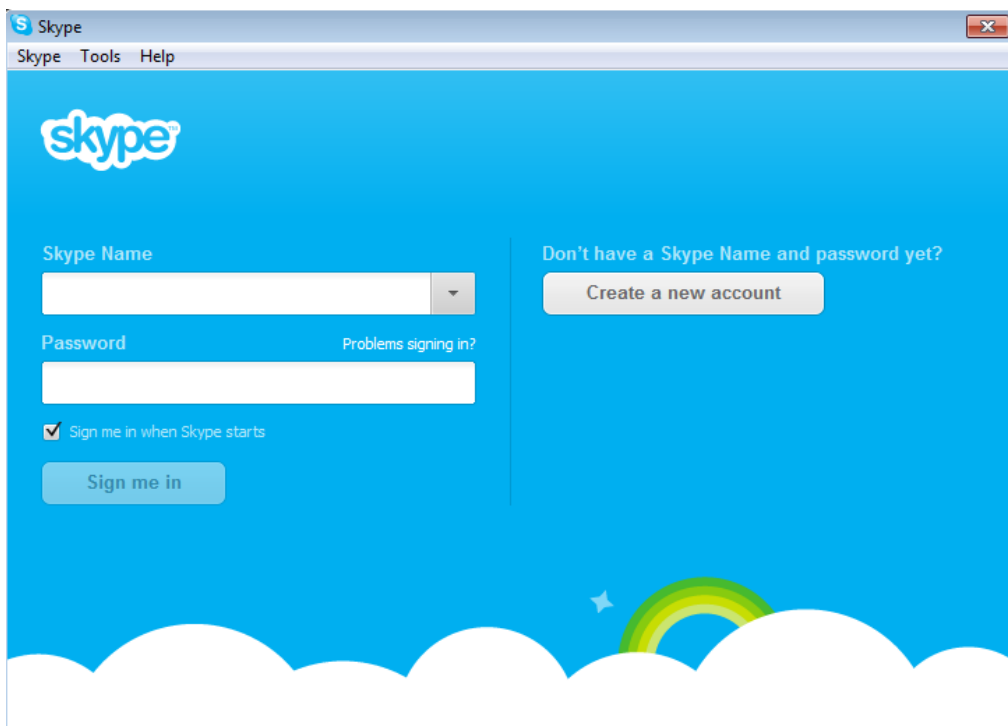
Uncheck the box and the Continue



Uncheck the boxes and then Continue

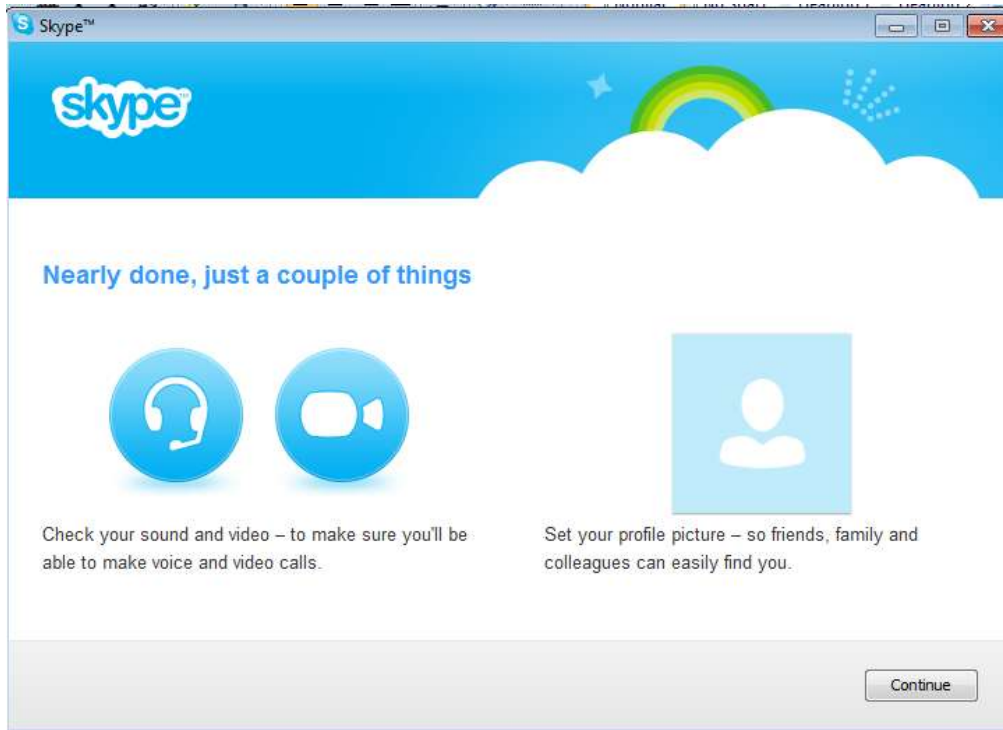


And it does take quite a few minutes...

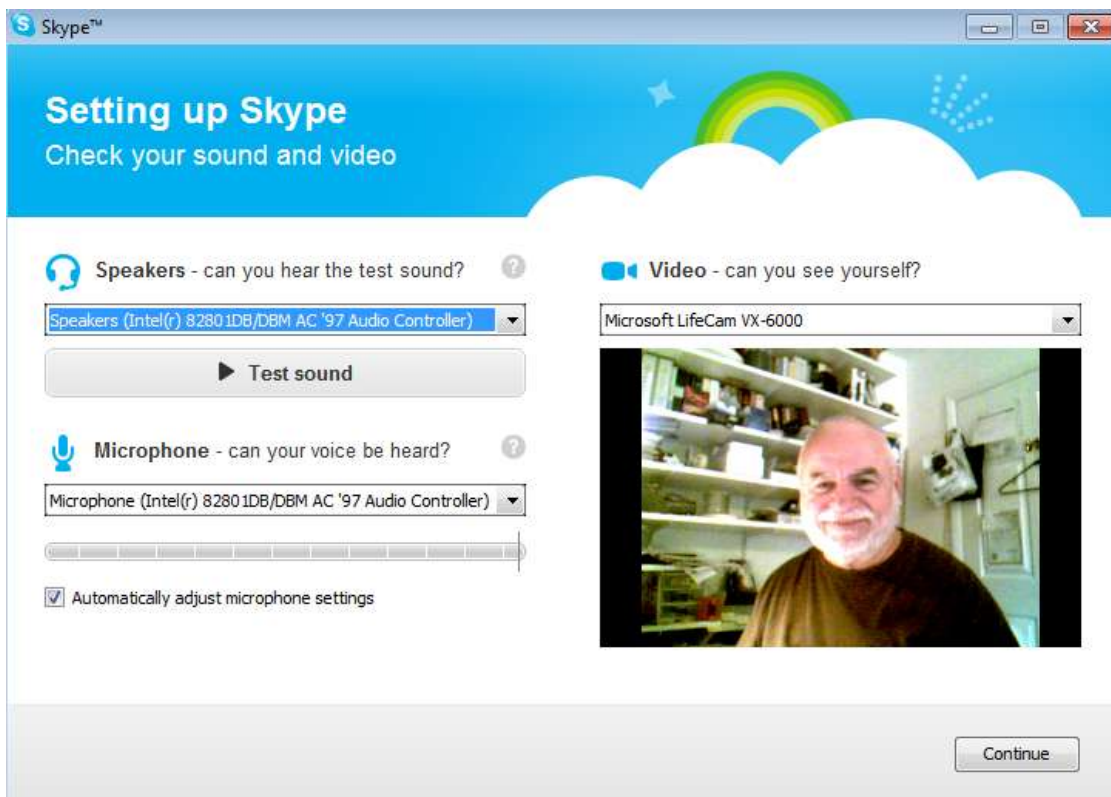


If you do not have a Skype account, click Create a new account and follow the prompts

Otherwise, sign in using your Skype Name and Password



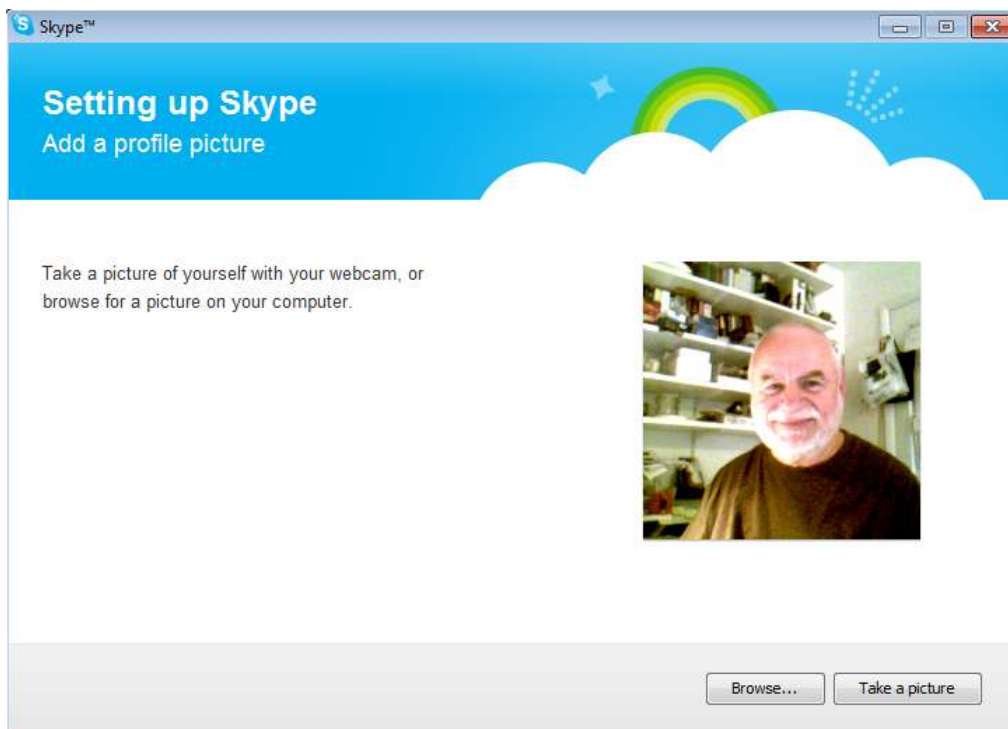
Click Continue



Test your speakers, microphone, and video camera and then Continue



Continue to add a profile picture



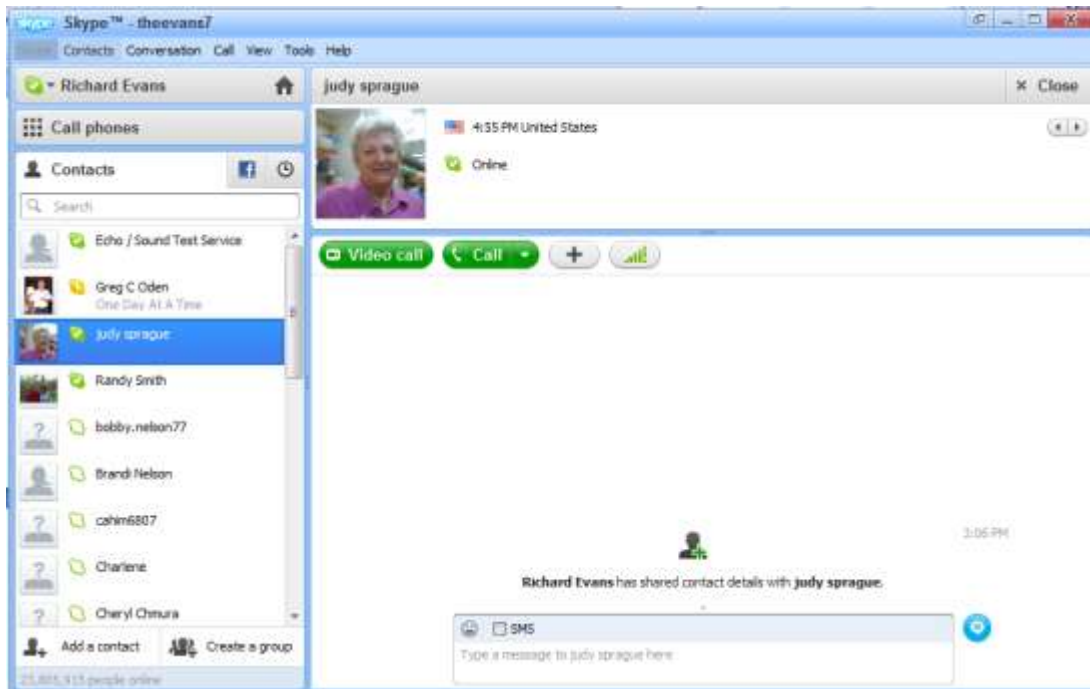
Take a picture



Adjust the size and then Use this picture



Start using Skype



To make a call, click the person you want to call in the contact list on the left. Then on the right click Video call. When they answer, you get to see them and they you.

To add a new contact, locate the Add a contact button in the lower left and click it

Add a contact

If they're on Skype too, calls are free.

Enter all the details you know:

Email

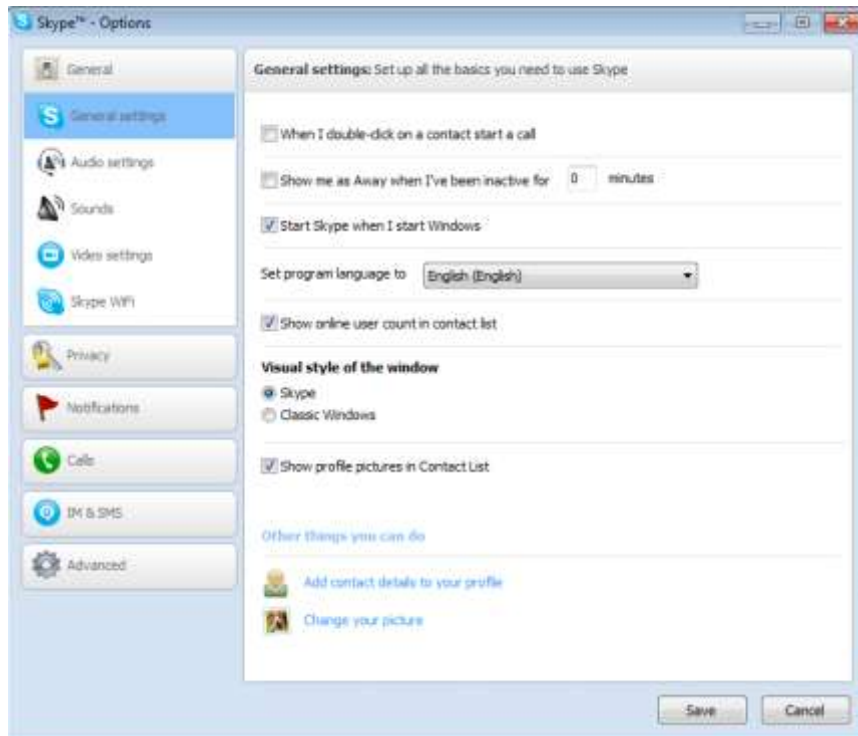
Phone number

Full name

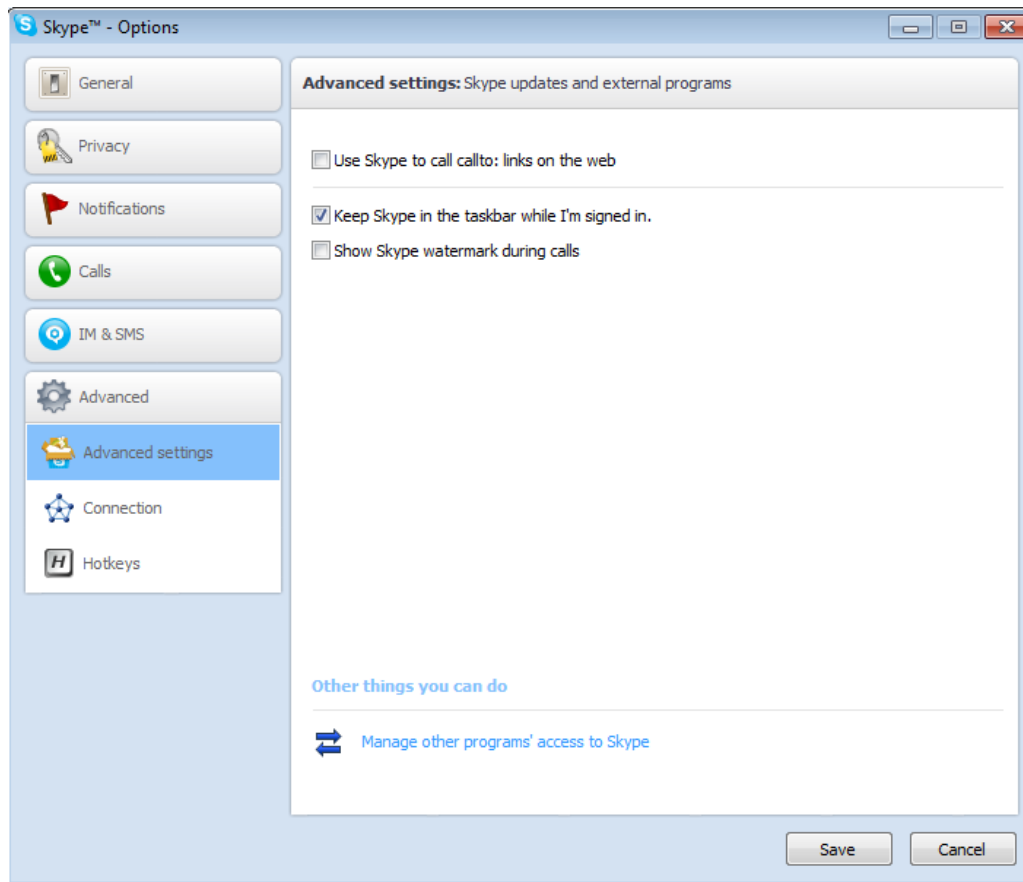
Skype Name

Enter the email address, phone number, full name, or Skype name of the person you want to add and click Add. They will be sent a notification that you want to add them. Once they accept, you can contact each other on Skype.

To adjust some of the settings in Skype, on the tool bar click Tools > Options



Each of the entries in the left column display a different set of settings in the right window. If you make changes to any page, be sure to Save them.



Under Advanced settings I suggest turning off the Use Skype to call callto: links on the web