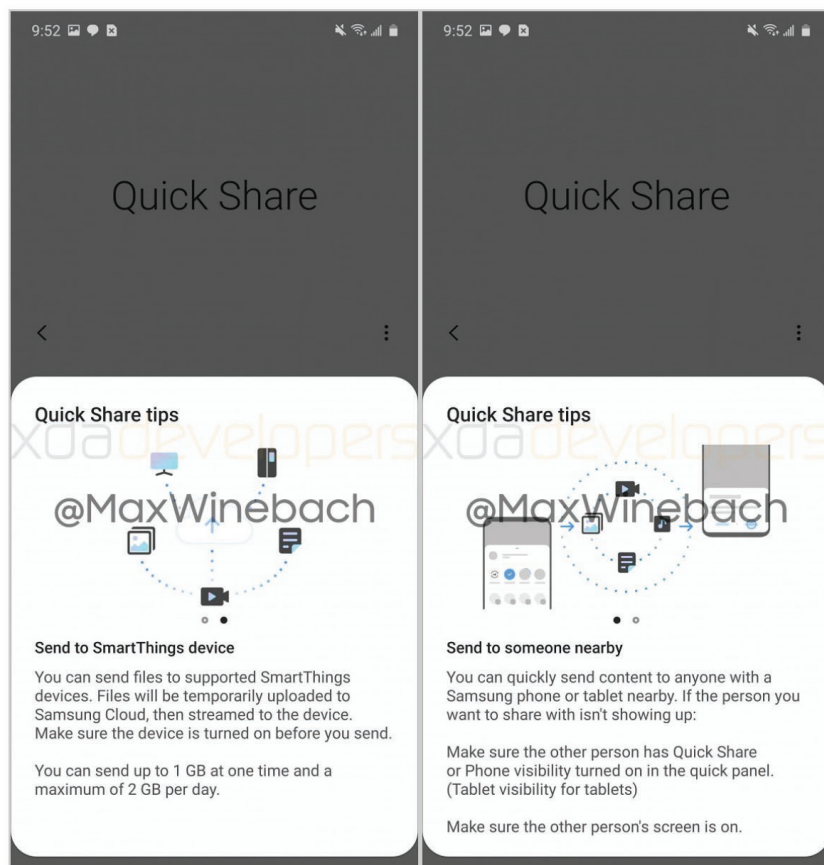


This will basically work like most of these other nearby sharing services. If you are near another user with a supported device, they will show up and you can share the picture, video, or file. You will have two options for sharing: contacts only or with everyone. "Contacts-only" will only allow you to share files with other Samsung Social users who you have in your contacts. "Everyone" will let you send or receive files from anyone with a supported device in your area.

Unlike other services like AirDrop, Quick Share will have a cloud aspect to it. Quick Share will let you temporarily upload files to Samsung Cloud. These files will then be streamed to Samsung Smart Things devices and downloaded locally. These files can be up to 1GB with a total of 2GBs being sent per day.



This service will likely be launching with the Galaxy S20+. We were able to get the APK for this service from our source who has access to a Galaxy S20+ 5G. This app did not exist on any other One UI 1.0/1.5 or One UI 2 device that we checked. This service is going to likely come included on all devices launching with One UI 2.1 and later. This is also the type of service that I'd imagine would be available on most older Samsung devices with a software update, though its rollout would be entirely on Samsung.

Samsung isn't the only company with a service like this on the market or in the works. Google is currently working on a feature called **Nearby Sharing** as part of the Google Play Services. This could theoretically support every supported Android phone and ChromeOS. Xiaomi and two-thirds of the BBK trifecta, OPPO and Vivo, also have a **cross-platform sharing feature**. Apple has had a robust file sharing solution for its devices for quite a few years now, so it's good to see Android OEMs catching up with their own solutions. Users otherwise had to resort to third-party alternatives, but mileage tended to vary with such solutions. These first-party implementations might make the Android ecosystem as powerful and useful as the ecosystem Apple has spent years crafting.

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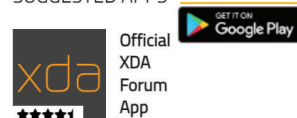
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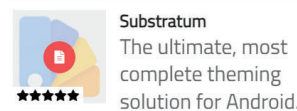
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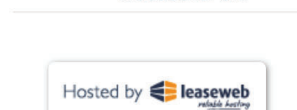
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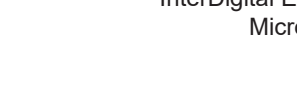
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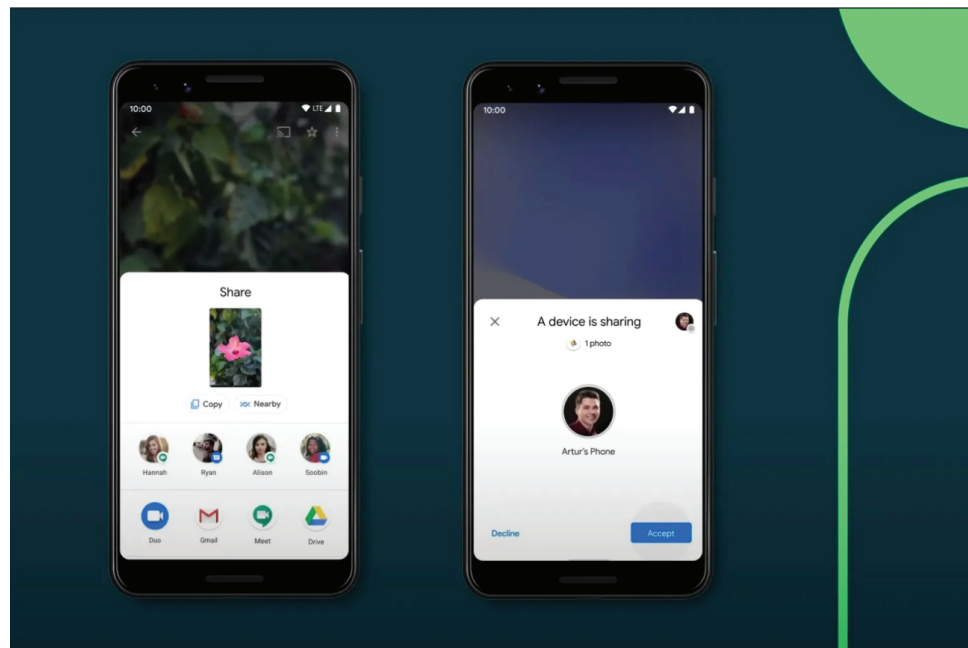
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Google's AirDrop competitor, Nearby Share, is reportedly getting a big upgrade

Because sending a photo to your computer shouldn't be this hard

By David Pierce | Apr 19, 2022, 5:17pm EDT

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When Google [launched Nearby Share in 2020](#), Android users everywhere rejoiced. They finally had a tool to rival Apple's AirDrop, a simple way to move files between devices without having to attach them to an email or upload them to Google Drive just to download them again on a new device.

Now, ahead of Google I/O, a few users have noticed an upgrade lurking in Google Play Services that makes Nearby Share even easier. The new "self-share" mode, as [spotted by](#)

[Esper's Mishaal Rahman](#) (via [Android Police](#)), appears to let you send files between your own devices with a single tap. The feature has been [rumored for months](#) but now appears to be much closer to being ready.

Nearby Share's "self-share" mode will let you quickly share files to other devices signed into the same Google account without needing to approve the share.

This hasn't rolled out yet from what I can see, but it's present in the latest version of Google Play Services. pic.twitter.com/wdtxoiE2oz

— Mishaal Rahman (@MishaalRahman) [April 19, 2022](#)

Until now, Google has required the recipient of a share to accept it, which is a very good idea for security and trolling reasons but an annoying additional step when all you want to do is send a photo from your phone to the laptop in the other room. The newly seamless sharing only works for devices that have Nearby Share enabled, are physically close to you, and are logged into your Google account. Anyone else not on your account will still have to accept each share from your device.

Nearby Share is an important feature for Google, especially as the Android ecosystem continues to expand across devices. If Google is going to be inside your phone, your laptop, your TV, your speakers, and your smartwatch, it needs to make it easy for users to move stuff between all those devices. Apple has continually shown what's possible here, with AirDrop but also with features like Universal Control. It can be a hard thing to get right, though: for every magical second-screen experience Apple offers, it also shipped the feature that makes your AirPods switch from your phone to your laptop at the worst possible times.

But both companies know that a successful ecosystem requires not just making things but making them work together, and both are seemingly pushing hard toward that goal. (In a perfect world, these would be cross-platform features, too, but don't hold your breath on that.)

There's no word yet on when the Nearby Share update will be released, but with [Google I/O scheduled to start on May 11th](#), it's likely not far away.

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Android is finally getting its version of Apple's AirDrop

The feature, called Nearby Share, spent "years in development."



Richard Nieva

Aug. 4, 2020 9:00 a.m. PT

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Google is unveiling an Android feature called Nearby Share.

Angela Lang/CNET

Android is getting a feature that's been beloved among iPhone users for years.

Google, which makes the Android mobile operating system, on Tuesday said it's launching a tool called Nearby Share that lets people quickly send files to the devices of people around them. The feature is similar to Apple's AirDrop, which debuted for Mac computers in 2011, then came to iPhones two years later.

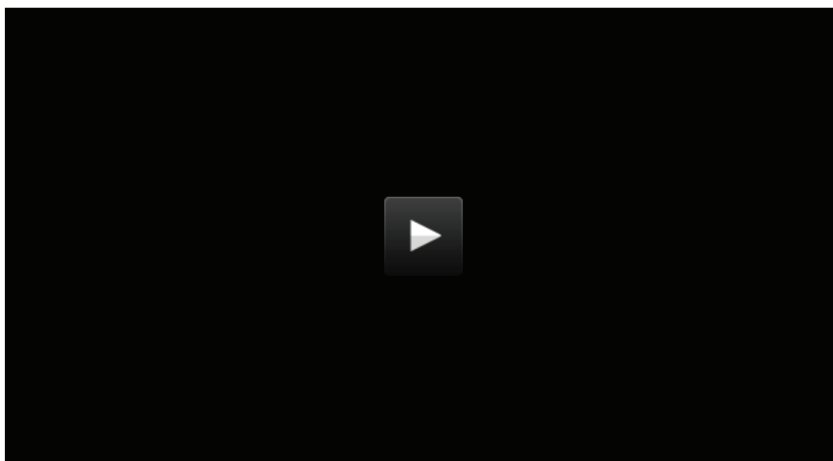
It's faster than sharing a file by text because the sender doesn't have to find the recipient's contact information. It also works either online or offline because the feature uses various sending methods, including Bluetooth or peer-to-peer Wi-Fi connections.

Google said the feature spent "years in development," and will be available on "thousands" of different models of Android phones. It will work with devices that run Android Marshmallow, the version of the operating system released in 2015, or newer. Almost a decade ago, Google released a similar feature called [Android Beam](#), but it failed to gain traction with consumers.

The feature lets people transfer files between devices.

Google

The feature is coming first to select phones from Samsung and Google's flagship mobile device line, Pixel. Samsung is [unveiling new devices on Wednesday](#) and Google this week announced [three new Pixel phones](#).



The release comes as both Google and Apple battle to bring new features to users that were previously only on its rival's platform. In June, Apple unveiled several features for its iPhones that [Android phones have had for years](#), including widgets for customizing the home screen and "app clips" for previewing apps without downloading them.

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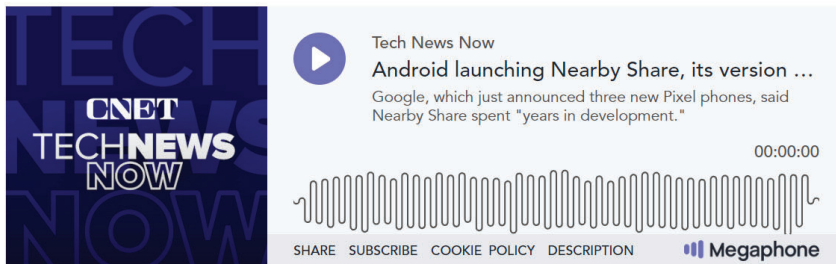
How to use our top 5 favorite Android 11 features

7 hidden Android features that will blow your mind. Here's how to use them

Stop being jealous of iMessage. How to use Google's fancy texting on Android phones

Android is the most dominant mobile operating system in the world, powering almost 9 out of every 10 smartphones shipped globally. The software is a crucial piece of Google's business. The search giant makes the vast majority of its \$160 billion in annual sales through personalized ads. Getting more people on its Android software means the company can get more data on users to refine its targeted advertising.

Google, which has been criticized for its privacy and data collection policies, said it built in settings for Nearby Share that let people control how visible they are. Users can send and receive files anonymously. They can choose to be hidden, or seen by some or all contacts. Google said the feature will be compatible with its Chromebook laptops "in coming months."



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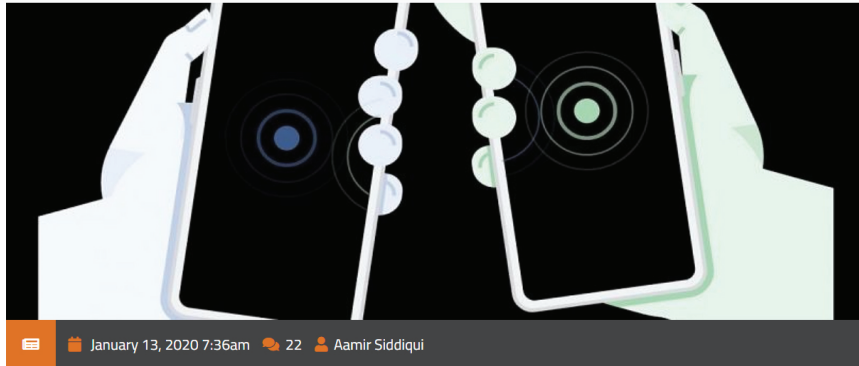
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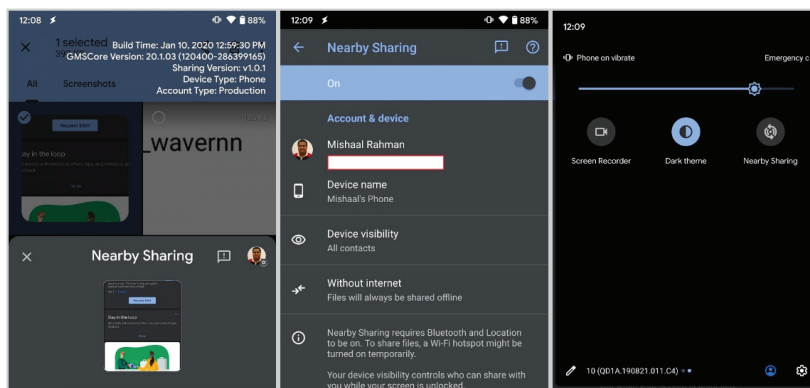
Fast Share, Google's upcoming AirDrop-like service, gets renamed to Nearby Sharing ahead of release

One of the things that "just works" within Apple's ecosystem is AirDrop, the file-sharing solution available on iOS and macOS, allowing users to quickly share files with each other without needing to rely on any third-party apps. Android had an NFC-based solution in the form of Android Beam, but the feature was deprecated entirely in Android 10/Q. The absence of a true Airdrop competitor on Android prompted Xiaomi, Oppo, and Vivo to come together to announce their own cross-device file transfer solution. On the other hand, Google is also working on its own solution in the form of Fast Share, which was originally spotted back in June 2019. Now, Google has rebranded the service into Nearby Sharing.

An APK teardown can often predict features that may arrive in a future update of an application, but it is possible that any of the features we mention here may not make it in a future release. This is because these features are currently unimplemented in the live build and may be pulled at any time by the developers in a future build.

Nearby Sharing (aka Fast Share) uses Bluetooth to initiate a handshake between devices, and then subsequently transfer files over a direct Wi-Fi connection. This will allow for larger files to be transferred much more quickly than Android Beam. Google has yet to announce or release this feature, but it has been in development for quite some time now. After it was first spotted, the feature received a revamp to its Share Sheet and its position within the Settings menu, spotted in September 2019. Then, in November 2019, Mishaal found that the feature received some UI changes along with a new icon.

And now, with Google Play Services v20.1.03, the Fast Share service has been rebranded to Nearby Sharing. One new tidbit that we have also learned is that both the devices have to be placed within 1 foot of each other in order to share, according to the text at the bottom of the share sheet.



ABOUT AUTHOR



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> Commerce and Law graduate with a passion for all

things Android, Aamir frequently helps people get the best out of their budget smartphones through generous use of custom roms and kernels. He receives press releases at aamir@xda-developers.com.

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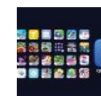
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It is currently unknown when exactly Google plans to release Nearby Sharing. Because of the rebranding from Fast Share and the new icon, we predict that the service is likely nearing launch.

Thanks to PNF Software for providing us a license to use *JEB Decompiler*, a professional-grade reverse engineering tool for Android applications.

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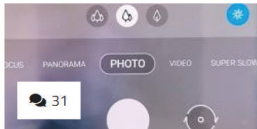
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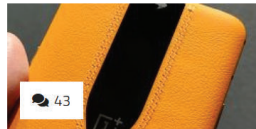
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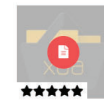
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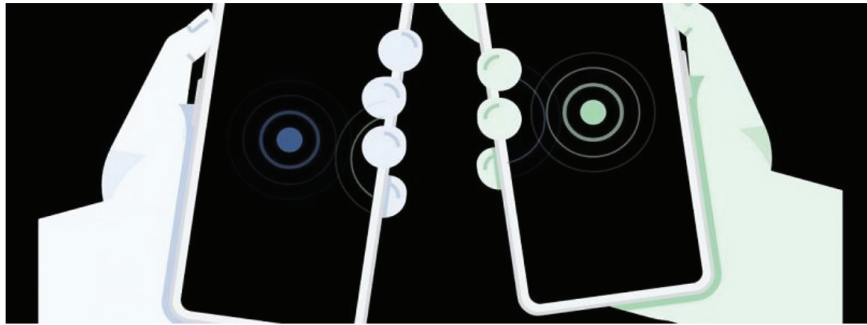
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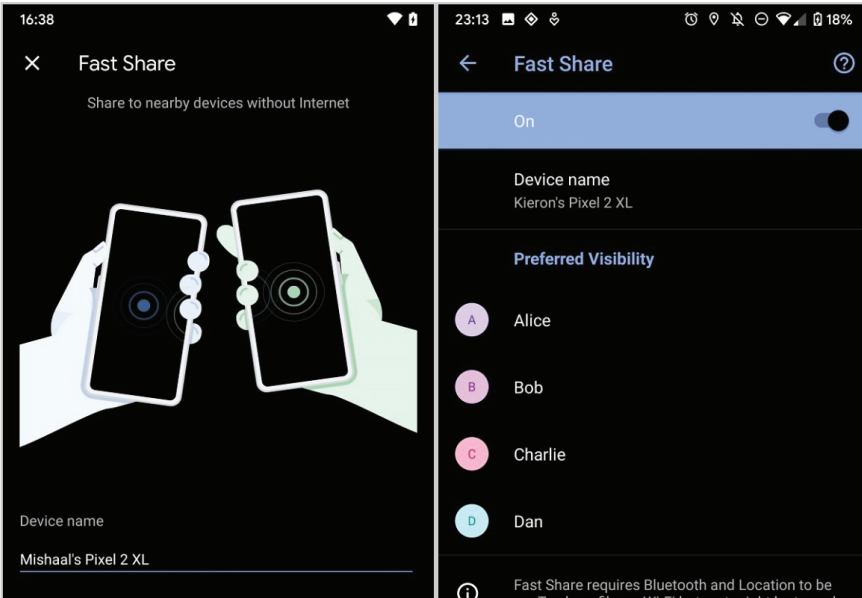


June 29, 2019 6:46pm 31 Mishaal Rahman

Google's Fast Share is an upcoming AirDrop-like file sharing tool for Android

When I discovered that Google was **deprecating Android Beam** in Android Q, I was surprised to see how many people were upset by the news. The file transfer service used NFC to transfer files between devices, and although it was slow and rarely used, it still had its fans because of how widely available it was. *Every* Android device supported Android Beam, as a matter of fact. Now, in order to share files, you have to use other methods that aren't guaranteed to work on every device. Google has pushed users toward the **Files by Google** app, but it now appears that the company is working on a new file-sharing tool. The tool, called Fast Share, is part of the Nearby service in Google Play Services, and it looks to be not only an Android Beam replacement but also an Apple AirDrop competitor.

Fast Share was first spotted by *9to5Google* earlier today, but we quickly **figured out** how to access it for ourselves to share the below screenshots. We also thank XDA Recognized Developer **Quinny899** for his assistance in getting some of these screenshots. The screenshots show that the new file-sharing tool will let you "share to nearby devices without Internet," much like Android Beam once did. Rather than NFC, the service uses Bluetooth to initiate a handshake and then subsequently transfers files over a direct Wi-Fi connection. This will allow for larger files to be transferred much more quickly than Android Beam. Fast Share even allows you to give your device "Preferred Visibility" to nearby devices, which lets those devices "always see your device when you're nearby, even if you're not using Fast Share."



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Mishaal Rahman

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Editor-in-chief on the XDA-Developers Portal. I have a keen

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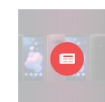
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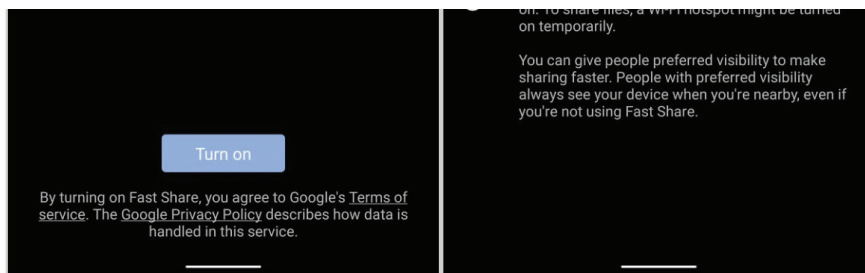
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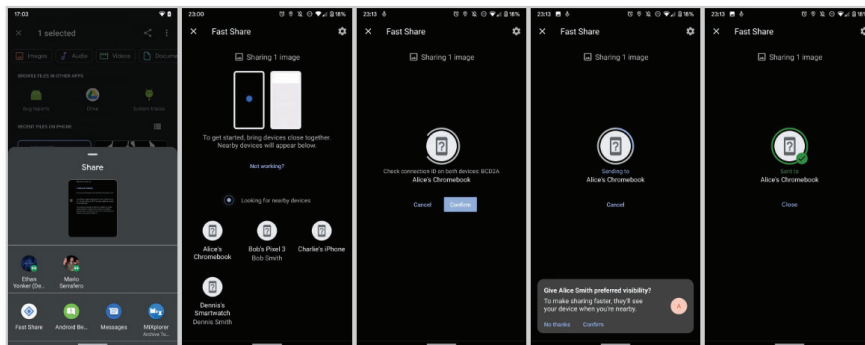
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The share flow seems similar to Apple's AirDrop file sharing service, which Android users have wanted for years. You can send one or more files to another device by selecting the files you want and picking the "Fast Share" option in the share sheet menu. Then, you can pick which device you want to send to once the devices appear in the scanning menu. The activity currently shows generic share targets, including a **Chromebook**, a **Google Pixel 3**, an iPhone, and a smartwatch. Hopefully, the service will actually support sending files to **Chrome OS** devices, Apple iOS devices, and **Wear OS** smartwatches once it goes live, but we can't say for sure just based on the presence of these generic share targets.



What we can be sure of is that the service will support sending and receiving files to and from other Android devices with Google Play Services installed. Whether Fast Share will require a specific Android OS version is something we're not sure of, though. I would imagine that it'll support most modern Android releases given that it only requires Bluetooth and Wi-Fi Direct support.

We'll keep an eye out on this file sharing service and will let you know if or when it goes live. It looks like it'll be a decent competitor to Apple's AirDrop, but given its reliance on Google Play Services, some will be disappointed that it won't be as ubiquitous as Android Beam. Google is known to rip services out of AOSP and put them into Google Play Services, so this move shouldn't come as a surprise. Still, given how many Certified Android devices are on the market, you'll likely have a hard time finding a device that won't support this new file sharing tool once it's available.

Via: [9to5Google](#)

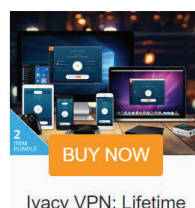
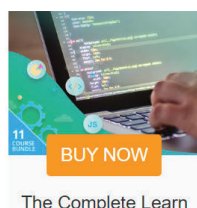
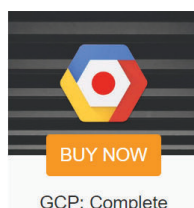


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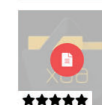
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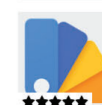
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