

What's New in Microsoft 365 September 2025 Updates

Application	Pages
Microsoft Teams	2-6
Microsoft Outlook	7-8
Microsoft Intune	8
Microsoft 365 Apps	9-11
Microsoft SharePoint	12-13
Microsoft Entra	13-14
Microsoft Administrator	14-17
Microsoft Copilot	17-23





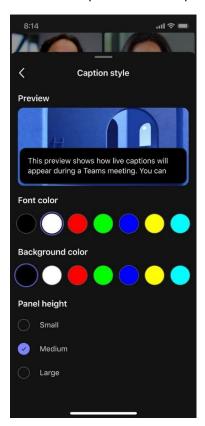
Teams Updates

1. Customize live captions on mobile for improved accessibility

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Live captions in Microsoft Teams meetings are now available on mobile devices with enhanced customization options. Users can personalize captions by adjusting font color, background color, and caption height—making captions easier to read and follow, especially in varying lighting conditions or while on the go. This update aligns mobile capabilities with Teams on desktop and web, supporting a consistent experience across platforms.



When will this happen:

mid-September 2025 and expect to complete by late September 2025



2. New file protection in Teams chat and channels blocks unsafe content

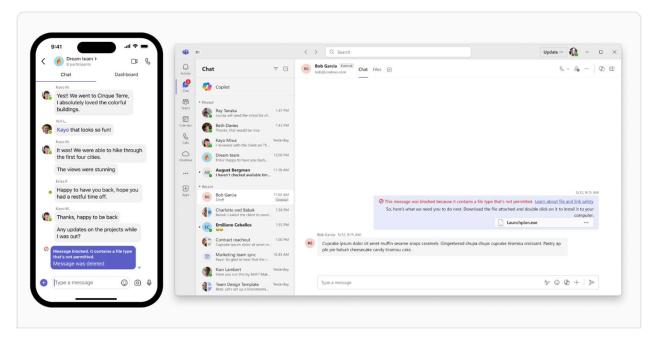
New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Microsoft Teams is introducing a new protection feature that blocks messages containing weaponizable file types—such as executables—in chats and channels. This helps reduce the risk of malware and file-based attacks by preventing unsafe content from being shared. This message applies to Teams for Windows desktop, Teams for Mac desktop, Teams for the web, and Teams for iOS/Android.

Admins can enable this protection in the *Teams Admin Center*:

- 1. Go to the Teams Admin Center
- 2. Navigate to Messaging Settings
- 3. Turn on the setting: Scan messages for file types that are not allowed



When will this happen:

early November 2025; expected to complete by mid-November 2025.

3. Collaborative Notes in Chats

New Feature

How this will affect your organization



We're introducing Teams Collaborative Notes (powered by Loop) in group chats across desktop and web experiences. This feature enables users to co-create and edit notes, agendas, and action items directly within the Teams chat interface, enhancing real-time collaboration without switching contexts.

When will this happen:

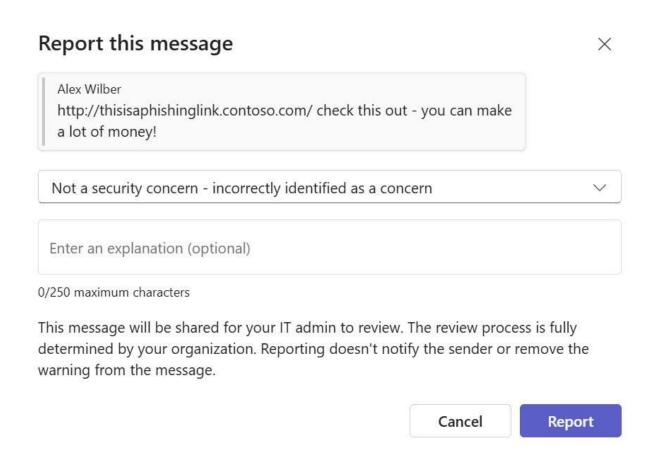
late September 2025 and completes by early October 2025.

4. User reporting for incorrectly identified security concerns

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Microsoft Teams now enables users to report messages they believe were incorrectly flagged as security threats in chats and channels. This capability is available to organizations with Microsoft Defender for Office 365 Plan 2 or Microsoft Defender XDR



When will this happen:



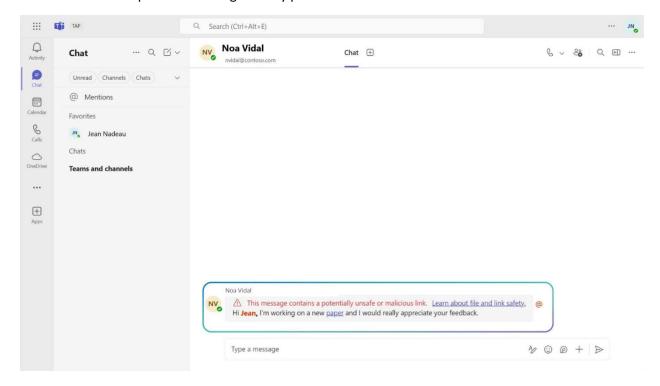
early November 2025; expected completion by mid-November 2025.

5. Message Warnings for Messages with Malicious URLs in Teams

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

To help users stay protected from malicious content, we're introducing message warnings in Microsoft Teams. This new feature displays a warning banner on messages containing URLs flagged as Spam, Phish, or Malware—whether the message is internal or external. These warnings enhance user awareness and complement existing security protections like Safe Links and ZAP.



When will this happen:

early November 2025; expected to complete by mid-November 2025.

6. (Teams Premium) Customize the screen in Teams Town hall through "Manage what attendees see"

New Feature

How this will affect your organization



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Coming soon to Microsoft Teams: the new Manage what attendees see feature will empower organizers and presenters to deliver more engaging and professional town hall events. With enhanced customization options—including layouts, backgrounds, theme colors, and name tags—this update supports a visually rich experience. This feature is available exclusively to organizers with a Teams Premium license.

When will this happen:

late October 2025 – early November 2025.

7. New link in forwarded messages improves context and traceability

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

When someone forwards a message in Microsoft Teams, the forwarded message will now include a clickable link that takes the recipient directly to the original chat or channel message—if they have permission to view it. This enhancement improves message traceability and helps users quickly understand the context of forwarded messages. This update is based on customer feedback requesting better navigation and context when messages are shared across Teams.



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When will this happen:

early November 2025; expected to complete by mid-November 2025.





Outlook Updates

1. Save an Event as a Draft

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

You can now save a meeting as a draft on your calendar when you're not ready to send invites. This update gives users more flexibility when planning events, especially when details are still being finalized.

When will this happen:

complete by mid-October 2025

2. Set up classic Outlook accounts and settings in new Outlook for Windows automatically

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

To simplify the transition experience, starting in October 2025, Microsoft Outlook will automatically set up users' classic Outlook accounts and settings in the new Outlook for Windows—seamlessly and in the background—if certain conditions are met. This enhancement enables users to work across both Outlook experiences without manual setup or toggling.



When will this happen:

begin the roll out in October 2025 and continue to expand it over the next few months.



3. Retirement of Outlook Lite app

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

The Outlook Lite app will be retired starting October 6th, 2025. After this date, new installations will be blocked. Existing users can continue using the app for a limited time before full retirement.



Intune

1. Set a customizable initial Start menu layout with an enhanced policy

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Starting with the September 2025 security update, IT admins can configure an initial Start menu layout that users can later customize. If you've used the Configure Start Pins policy previously, it would revert user personalization to the IT-set configuration after a restart. The enhanced policy allows user changes to persist. This new capability is available to you through configuration service providers (CSP) today, and the Group Policy (GPO) will follow in October.

https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/configuration/start/layout?tabs=intune-10%2Cintune-11&pivots=windows-11





Microsoft 365 Apps

1. Microsoft OneNote | Sensitivity labels now available on desktop, web, iOS, Android, and Mac

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're introducing support for Microsoft Purview sensitivity labels in OneNote. This update enables users to classify and protect OneNote sections using the same compliance standards available across Microsoft 365 apps.

When will this happen:

late January 2026 and expect to complete by late January 2027.

2. Action Required – Configure Browser Policy to Preserve OneDrive and SharePoint Web Performance and Offline Capability

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Upcoming privacy-related changes in Chromium-based browsers (Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge) will increase restrictions on local network access. When enforcement begins, users accessing OneDrive for Web (and some integrated Microsoft 365 experiences such as Microsoft Lists and SharePoint Document Libraries) will encounter a browser permission prompt for local network access unless the required policy is in place. If the permission is not allowed, performance optimizations and offline capabilities powered by OneDrive and Share Point will not be available. This communication provides required administrator actions to prevent loss of functionality.

1. Who is affected:

- a. All users accessing OneDrive for Web, Microsoft Lists, and SharePoint Document Libraries via Chrome or Edge browsers.
- b. Admins managing browser policies for Windows, macOS, and VDI environments.

2. What will happen:

If no action is taken:



- a. Users will see a new browser prompt requesting permission for local network access when opening OneDrive for Web and Lists.
- b. If users do not click *Allow*, the following results occur on that device:
 - i. Performance acceleration will not be available (loss of faster data access behavior).
 - ii. Offline functionality in OneDrive Web will not be available.
- c. The experience will be slower and less resilient, and helpdesk contacts will increase due to unexpected prompts and missing offline capability.

When the recommended browser policy is deployed in advance, the prompt is suppressed for the specified trusted Microsoft 365 endpoints and existing performance, and offline behavior are preserved. The policy prevents loss of existing capability and avoids user confusion.

What you need to do to prepare:

- d. Identify Required Domains
 - Include your organization's SharePoint Online and OneDrive endpoints, for example: https://YOURTENANT-sharepoint.com or
 https://YOURTENANT.sharepoint.com
 - ii. Add additional sanctioned SharePoint Online host variations if applicable (e.g., specialized cloud environments). Avoid overly broad wildcards—conform to internal security governance.
- e. Configure Browser Policy
 - i. Set the Chromium policy LocalNetworkAccessAllowedForUrls (Chrome Enterprise / Edge policy) to pre-authorize the listed domains.
 - ii. Apply via: ADMX / JSON for Windows; plist or configuration profile for macOS (Chrome and Edge).
 - iii. Roll out to all managed device groups (Windows, macOS, VDI as applicable).
 - iv. Even if the following policies are currently enabled by policy, deploy the allowlist to prevent future prompts and avoid user confusion.
 - DisableNucleusSync
 - 2. DisableOfflineMode
- f. Remediation for Users Who Already Clicked Block
 - i. Deploying the managed LocalNetworkAccessAllowedForUrls policy will override any prior per-user deny state and enforce the allow setting once the policy is applied to the device/profile; no end-user action is required after policy propagation.



- ii. If you need immediate remediation before policy reaches the device, have the user open the affected OneDrive site, use the site (lock) icon, reset or change the local/network device access permission to *Allow*, then refresh.
- g. Ensure your Sync Client is updated to v.25.164
- 1. **Per machine SKU**: The Sync client will automatically apply the required permissions and policies for existing users in Chrome and Edge—no user action is needed.
- 2. **Per user SKU**: The Sync client will prompt users via a Windows Toast notification to enable these permissions. Users should follow the notification instructions to complete setup.

When will this happen:

Chrome and Edge will roll out this privacy related change as part of Chromium 141 at the end of September.

3. Microsoft 365 Copilot Apps installation on devices with Microsoft 365 Apps

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Starting October 2025, Microsoft will automatically install the Microsoft 365 Copilot app on Windows devices with Microsoft 365 desktop apps, except in the EEA. The app appears in the Start menu, enabled by default, with admins able to opt out and prepare users accordingly.

Admin Actions

- Review the documentation for more details and instructions on how to manage this.
- You can opt out of the installation in the Microsoft 365 Apps Admin Center.
- Consider notifying helpdesk and users to reduce confusion and support requests.
- Update internal documentation if you reference installed apps or Copilot access points.

When will this happen:

Rollout begins in early October 2025 and completes mid-November 2025





Microsoft SharePoint

1. New SharePoint assessment and dashboard to streamline site governance and Copilot readiness

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're introducing the Content Management Assessment (CMA) in SharePoint Advanced Management to help tenant admins evaluate site health, permissions, and lifecycle readiness—all in a single, actionable dashboard. CMA consolidates multiple reports, including Site Lifecycle Management (SLM) and Data Access Governance (DAG), and provides tailored recommendations to strengthen governance and accelerate Copilot onboarding.

When will this happen

Rollout begins early October 2025 (previously early September) and is expected to complete by early November 2025 (previously early October).

2. Custom site inclusion for SharePoint Site Lifecycle Management (SLM) policies

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Admins can now upload a CSV file to define a custom scope of up to 10,000 SharePoint site URLs for SLM policy enforcement.

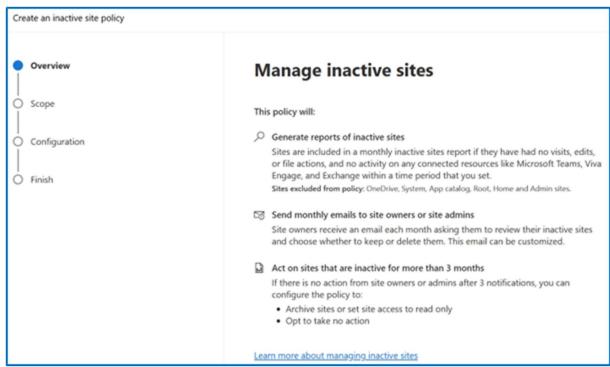
Sites with existing retention policies or holds are automatically included in the scope.

The inactivity period setting has moved from the Scope page to the Configuration page in both the policy creation wizard and the policy details panel.

This feature is available by default and does not require additional configuration to enable.

More info: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/sharepoint/site-lifecycle-management





When will this happen:

GΑ



Microsoft Entra

1. Cross-cloud synchronization now available

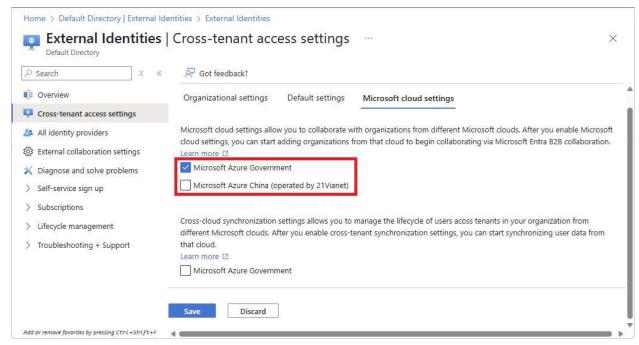
New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're introducing cross-cloud synchronization in Microsoft Entra to help organizations streamline user lifecycle management across Microsoft's commercial, US Government, and China cloud environments. This feature automates creating, updating, and deleting users across supported cloud pairs and is currently in public preview. It is off by default and must be explicitly enabled by administrators.

More info: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/entra/identity/multi-tenant-organizations/cross-tenant-synchronization-cross-cloud-synchronization





When will this happen:

general availability between late September 2025 (previously early September) and mid-October 2025



Microsoft Admin

1. Teams Admin Center: Control External Access by Domain for Specific Users and Groups

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Previously, external access settings could only be configured at the tenant level, with policy-level settings limited to either inheriting tenant settings or blocking all external domains. With this update, you can assign custom external access policies to users or groups with five configuration options:

- Use organization settings: Inherits the tenant's default external access configuration
- Allow all external domains: All external organizations are trusted
- Allow only specific external domains: Only domains in the allow list are trusted
- Block only specific external domains: Domains in the block list are restricted; all others are trusted



• Block all: All external domains are blocked for users assigned to this policy

More Info: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoftteams/trusted-organizations-external-meetings-chat?tabs=user-policies#configure-granular-domains-in-external-access-policies

When will this happen:

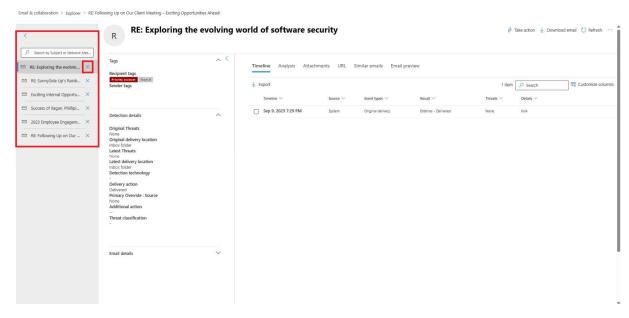
late October 2025 and completes by mid-December 2025.

2. Microsoft Defender for Office 365: Enhanced email entity page experience

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Introducing a streamlined experience for the email entity page in Microsoft Defender for Office 365. This update improves how users navigate between email records, reducing friction and enhancing productivity



When will this happen:

early November 2025 and expect to complete by late November 2025.

3. Hard delete action now removes calendar entries from malicious meeting invite emails

New Feature



How this will affect your organization

Security Operations Center (SOC) teams rely on remediation actions like Move to Junk, Delete, Soft Delete, and Hard Delete to swiftly eliminate email threats from user inboxes. However, meeting invite emails have posed an additional challenge: even after the email is removed, Outlook automatically creates a calendar entry during delivery, which remains active and accessible to users.

This residual calendar entry can still contain malicious links or phishing content, creating a security gap. We're closing that gap.

With this update, the Hard Delete action will now also remove the associated calendar entry for any meeting invite email. This ensures that threats are fully eradicated—not just from the inbox, but also from the calendar—reducing the risk of user interaction with potentially harmful content. Note that calendar entries manually created by users by adding .ics attachments to the calendar will not be deleted.

When will this happen:

early September 2025 and is expected to complete by late September 2025.

4. New SMB-security SKUs deliver XDR and data protection for Business Premium

New Add-On

How this will affect your organization

Today's small and medium-sized business (SMB) leaders are facing mounting pressure to protect sensitive data, maintain compliance requirements, and address oversharing risks compounded by the advancement of AI.

To address these challenges, Microsoft is launching three new SMB-security suite SKUs that are purpose-built for the mid-market:

- Microsoft Defender Suite for Business Premium
- Purview Suite for Business Premium
- Defender and Purview Suite for Business Premium

Full Announcement: <u>introducing new security and compliance add-ons for Microsoft 365 Business</u>
Premium | Microsoft Community Hub - Search

When will this happen:

GΑ



5. New CSP Promotions for Microsoft 365 Copilot

Promotion

How this will affect your organization

Offer details:

• Discount: 15% off net partner price

• Minimum license: 10–2,400 new Copilot licenses

• Term: 12 months

Flexible additions: Add licenses anytime during the subscription term, up to 2,400 total

- Billing: Annual commitment; annual or monthly billing (+5% price uplift for monthly)
- Availability: Worldwide, October 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025
- Customer eligibility: New to SKU Microsoft 365 Copilot customers transacting via CSP. Ineligible if the tenant has any existing paid Microsoft 365 Copilot license, regardless of purchase channel (EA, eCommerce, CSP, etc.).

Full Announcement: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/partner-center/announcements/2025-september#announcing-two-new-csp-promotions-for-microsoft-365-copilot



Microsoft Copilot

1. Expanding model choice in Microsoft 365 Copilot

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're expanding model choice in *Microsoft 365 Copilot Researcher* and *Microsoft Copilot Studio* to include Anthropic models. You can read more about this announcement in our blog: Expanding model choice in Microsoft 365 Copilot.

This update gives organizations more flexibility to tailor AI experiences to their needs. Researcher can now be powered by either OpenAI's deep reasoning models or Anthropic's Claude Opus 4.1. Claude in *Researcher* is rolling out today via the Frontier Program to Microsoft 365 Copilot licensed customers who opt in. In *Copilot Studio*, Claude Opus 4.1 and Sonnet 4 models are now available as optional model options in addition to existing options from OpenAI. Makers with Microsoft Copilot Studio licenses who opt in can now experiment with creating custom agents using Claude. Claude models in *Microsoft Copilot Studio* are currently in preview and not intended for production use.



More Info: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/copilot/microsoft-365/connect-to-ai-models

When will this happen?

September 24, 2025. Admin opt-in required.

2. Microsoft Teams: Channel Agent

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

An agent for every channel: Teams channels provide an organized space for teams to manage workstreams and communicate with stakeholders. Now, each channel can have a dedicated agent that draws on its conversations and meetings to act as a domain expert for the team. These agents adopt the channel's name and help with common tasks – for example, flagging important deadlines that are buried in conversations, summarizing progress with succinct status reports, assigning tasks and due dates, and answering questions asked in natural language like "What's the latest on our budget?" You can even invite these agents into meetings when you need expert insights in the discussion.

When this will happen

Public Preview: mid-September 2025 and expect to complete by mid-October 2025.

3. Introducing Knowledge Agent (preview): Al-powered content optimization for SharePoint and Copilot

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're introducing Knowledge Agent, a built-in SharePoint capability that helps organizations prepare content for AI at scale. It unifies fragmented AI features into a single, context-aware interface that adapts to user roles and surfaces intelligent actions directly in the flow of work. This enhancement supports high-quality, trustworthy responses from Microsoft 365 Copilot and custom agents.

A floating button will appear in the lower-right corner of SharePoint surfaces, launching a context-aware menu with intelligent actions. Learn more about opting into the preview: Get started with Knowledge Agent (preview).

Preview: Microsoft 365 Copilot: Enabling human-agent teams | Microsoft 365 Blog

When will this happen?

Public Preview (Worldwide): Begins mid-September 2025; completes by late February 2026.

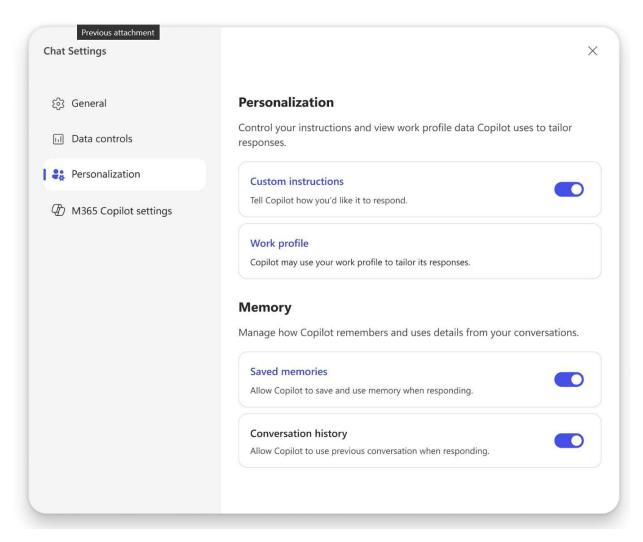


4. Microsoft 365 Copilot: Updates to memory and personalization

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're updating Memory in Microsoft 365 Copilot to improve personalization and enhance the user experience. With this update, Copilot will personalize responses using chat history, helping users receive more relevant and contextual replies. We're also introducing refreshed user controls in Copilot settings to make it easier to view and manage what Copilot remembers.



When will this happen:

mid-October 2025 and expected to complete by late October 2025.



5. Al video creator major update

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're introducing a major upgrade to the AI video creator in *Microsoft 365 Copilot*. This next-generation experience makes it easier than ever to create professional-quality videos from a text prompt, PowerPoint, PDF, or Word document. Key enhancements include:

- Transcript-based editing
- Ability to replace stock media with your own from OneDrive
- Updated natural-sounding voice options
- Brand Kit integration for applying brand colors
- New scene structure for improved storytelling
- Redesigned editing interface for faster, more intuitive workflows

When will this happen:

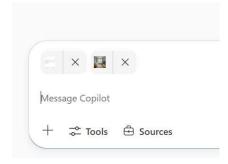
late September 2025 and expect to complete by late October 2025.

6. [Copilot Chat] Upload multiple reference images to create new images

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

To enhance creative flexibility in Copilot Chat, users will soon be able to upload multiple reference images in a single conversation. This update streamlines the image generation process and reduces repetitive steps, based on feedback from users seeking more dynamic visual creation capabilities.



When will this happen?



late September 2025 and is expected to complete by the end of September 2025.

7. New "Open in Word" action button in Microsoft 365 Copilot Chat

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're introducing a new Open in Word action button in Microsoft 365 Copilot Chat. This feature allows users to seamlessly transfer Copilot-generated responses into Microsoft Word for further editing, formatting, or collaboration. It enhances productivity by bridging AI-generated content with familiar document workflows.

When will this happen?

late September 2025 (previously mid-September) and is expected to complete by early October 2025 (previously late September)

8. Library experience in the Microsoft 365 Copilot app

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

Library provides a central, visual-first destination in the Microsoft 365 Copilot app where users can easily access their Copilot-generated content like images and Pages and as Copilot-generated content shared with them.

When will this happen?

mid-October 2025 (previously late September) and is expected to complete by mid-October 2025 (previously late September).

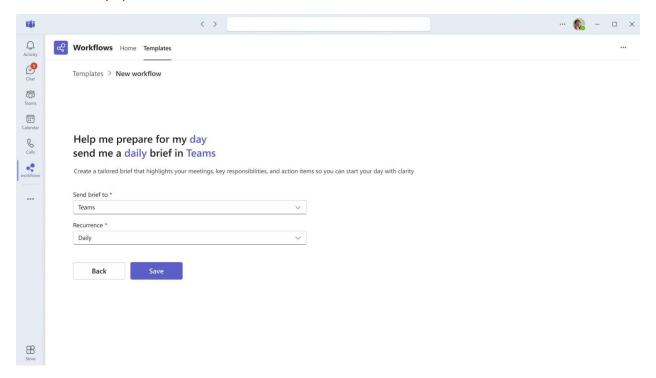
9. Microsoft Teams: AI workflows powered by Microsoft 365 Copilot

New Feature

How this will affect your organization



Al Workflows in the Workflows app for Microsoft Teams provide users with intelligent automation templates powered by Microsoft 365 Copilot. These workflows are powered by scheduled Copilot prompts through predefined templates for easier setup, helping users automate complex tasks and streamline daily operations.



When will this happen?

mid-October 2025 (previously late September) and is expected to complete by mid-October 2025 (previously late September).

10. Microsoft 365 admin center: Prepurchase capacity packs for Microsoft 365 Copilot Chat

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

To help organizations manage metered consumption costs for Microsoft 365 Copilot Chat, we're introducing support for prepaid Capacity Packs in the Microsoft 365 admin center (MAC). This feature enables global administrators to use prepaid message bundles before incurring pay-as-you-go (PAYG) charges.

This update applies specifically to Copilot Chat environments provisioned via the Power Platform admin center (PPAC), including departmental or custom Copilot agents built using Microsoft Copilot Studio.



Each Capacity Pack includes 25,000 Copilot messages per month, which can be allocated to Copilot Chat environments via PPAC. Once enabled, MAC will prioritize usage from these prepaid packs and automatically switch to PAYG when capacity is exhausted.

When will this happen?

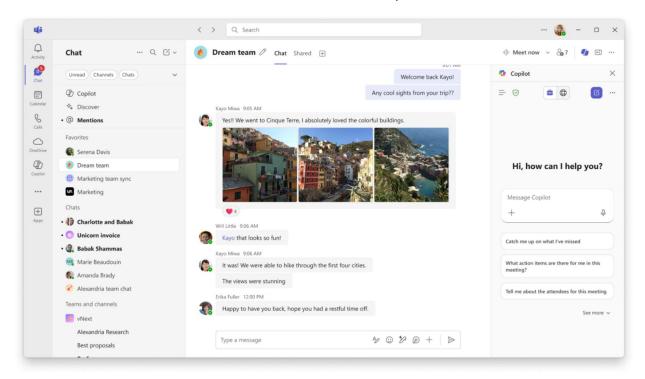
late September 2025 and expect to complete by early October 2026.

11. Copilot Chat for Teams Chats, Channels, Calling, and Meeting

New Feature

How this will affect your organization

We're excited to announce that we are making Copilot Chat available as a side-by-side experience in Teams. This will help users access the power of M365 and Web data in addition to current capabilities of Copilot in Chats, Channels, Calling, and Meeting. On Teams desktop (Windows and Mac) and web, users can open Copilot Chat from the Copilot icon located on the top right corner in these surfaces. Copilot Chat will be available in Teams for users with a Microsoft 365 Copilot license.



When will this happen?

Rollout of this change starts mid-November and completes in the weeks following.