

Topic

Subscribing to the SOS User Group on Google Groups



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Product ALL

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To subscribe to the SOSOFT User Group on Google Groups, follow these steps:

1. Open your web browser and go to the following address:
<http://www.sosoft.com/html/forum.php>
2. Fill in the e-mail address at which you would like to receive messages posted to the user group and click the **Subscribe** button.
3. Very soon you will receive a confirmation e-mail message from noreply@googlegroups.com. Open the message and click the confirmation link.
4. That will take you to a Google window that confirms that you are now subscribed to the User Group. You do not have to do anything else if you just want to receive and post individual messages. Messages sent to the group at sosoft@googlegroups.com will appear with your other email as they are posted by other users. To post a message of your own, just address it to sosoft@googlegroups.com.

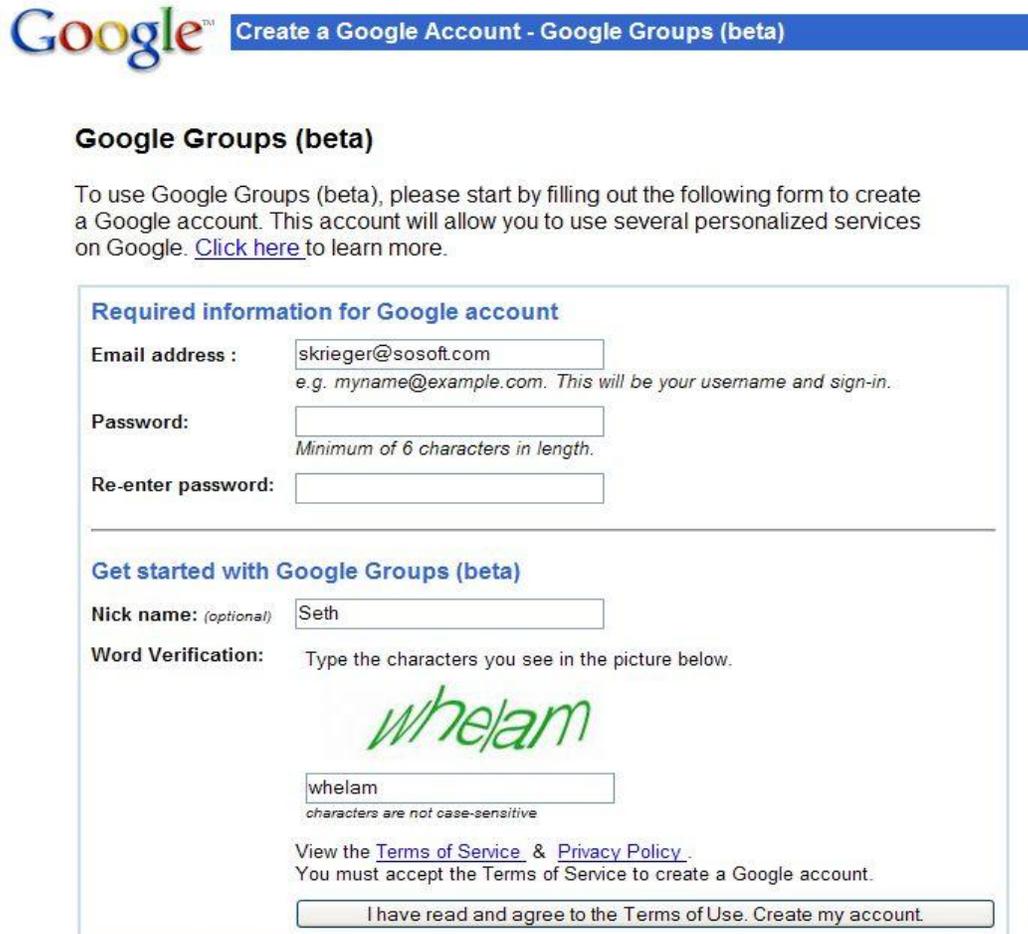
That said, we would encourage you to create a free account at Google Groups. Doing so will allow you to have full access to the features of the list and to customize how messages are forwarded to you.

5. If you are still on the Google window, click the Google Groups logo to go the main Google Groups page. If not, just open your web browser and go to <http://groups.google.com>.
6. Click the Join link. See figure to the right.
7. The Account creation form asks for an e-mail address. Be sure to use the same one you already used to subscribe to the User Group. It also asks for a password. This is a password for your Google account, not your regular e-mail password. You may also specify a "nick name" to appear as your identity in your message postings. Lastly, you must type the



letters that appear in distorted form in the registration window. Google requires this step as an obstacle to people who would use a program to create accounts for commercial or nefarious purposes.

8. Click the button at the bottom of the form to create your Google account.



The screenshot shows the Google Groups (beta) account creation interface. At the top left is the Google logo, followed by a blue header bar with the text "Create a Google Account - Google Groups (beta)". Below this is the heading "Google Groups (beta)".

The main content area is titled "Required information for Google account" and contains three input fields: "Email address" (with the example "skrieger@sosoft.com" and a note "e.g. myname@example.com. This will be your username and sign-in."), "Password" (with a note "Minimum of 6 characters in length."), and "Re-enter password".

Below this is a section titled "Get started with Google Groups (beta)" containing a "Nick name" field (with the example "Seth" and a note "(optional)") and a "Word Verification" section. The word verification shows a distorted image of the word "whelam" in green, with a corresponding input field containing the text "whelam" and a note "characters are not case-sensitive".

At the bottom of the form, there are links for "Terms of Service" and "Privacy Policy", a note "You must accept the Terms of Service to create a Google account.", and a button that reads "I have read and agree to the Terms of Use. Create my account."

9. In a short time you will receive another e-mail, this one from “accounts-noreply@google.com”. Click the link in the message to confirm your email address and your desire to create the Google account.

Changing Subscription Options

By default, you will receive each message as it is posted. There are two other options, however. You can choose to receive:

- **Digest Email:** Instead of receiving individual messages, you receive e-mails containing up to 25 individual messages. If you want to cut down on the amount of e-mail you receive and don't mind the delay, the digest alternative is a good one.
- **Abridged Email:** This option is similar to digest, but you receive only the first few lines of each message instead of the entire text, along with a link to take you to each of the

messages on the Google Groups web site. If you think you might like to see more of a particular message, all you have to do is click the link.

- **No Email:** Select this option if you prefer to check messages directly on the User Group site at Google rather than receive posts via e-mail.

To change your message delivery option, your e-mail address, password, or your nick name:

1. Go to <http://groups.google.com>
2. If you are not already signed in, click the **Sign in** link and enter your e-mail address and Google password.
3. Once you are signed in, Google will take you to your **My Groups** page. At the bottom of that page you will see a link for **Manage My Subscriptions**. Click that link to open a form that will permit you to modify the settings for any groups to which you are subscribed, including the SOS User Group.



If you are new to Yahoo Groups, you must now wait to receive a confirmation message sent to the email address that you specified when registering. Once you reply to that message (after opening the message, just click "reply" and then "send" in your email program), you will be ready to participate in the group. This is a one-time process. Once you have registered for one Yahoo Group, you can join any number of other groups on Yahoo (there are many thousand groups covering most anything you can imagine!) without having to go through the confirmation again.

We are sure that you will find participation in the user group to be worthwhile. There is no better way to stay up-to-date with the software and how to use it.