

Threads Layout in Teams Channels

Microsoft Teams now offers a new threads layout in channels, allowing you to have conversations in channels with an interface that looks and feels similar to group chats.

The new layout encourages immediate back-and-forth communication and easier collaboration, while maintaining all the benefits of durable collaboration that channels offer.

Key benefits:

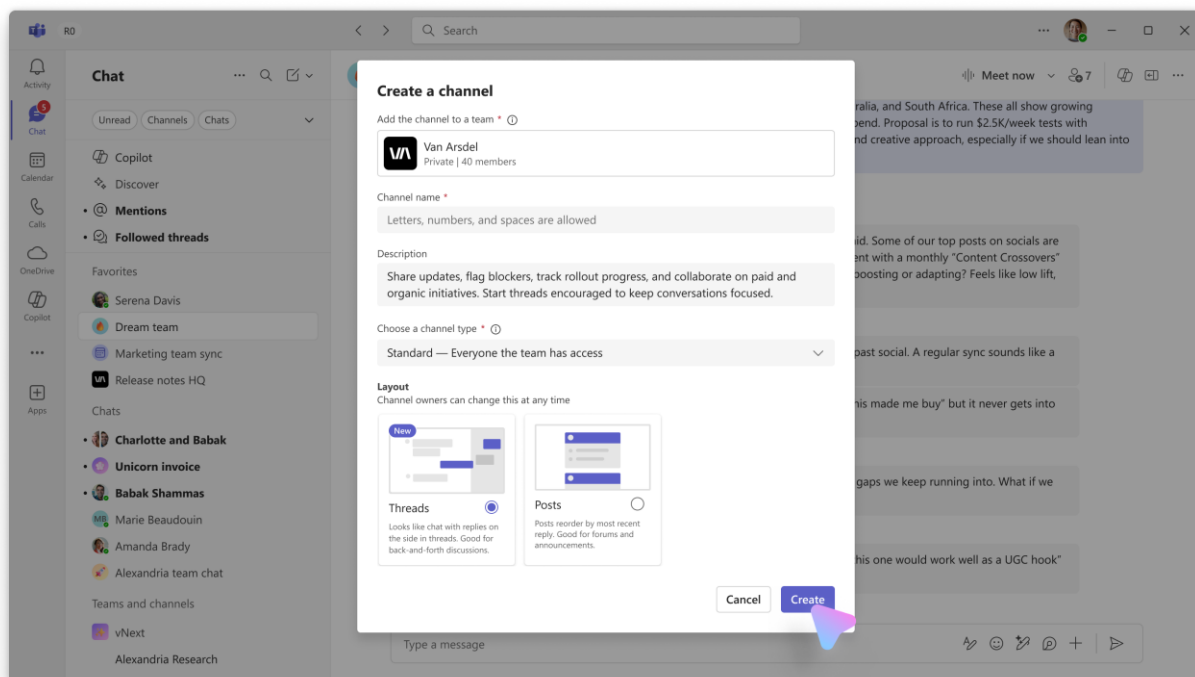
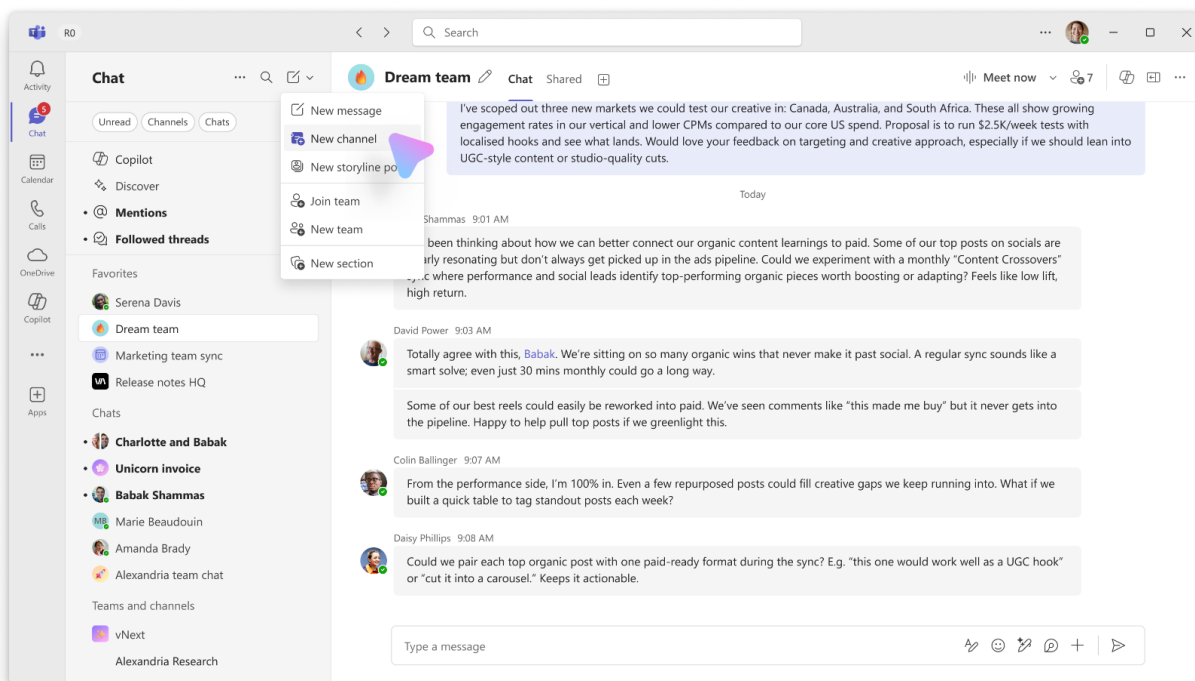
- **Frictionless collaboration:** Provide a more collaborative, free flowing layout for conversation in channels (no need to create a post to start a conversation).
- **Depth without distraction:** Provide a way for you to have deeper conversations on sub-topics without disrupting the main conversation.
- **Focus on relevance:** The new *Follow* gesture helps you stay focused by collecting important threads—manually or auto-followed—in the *Followed threads* quick view at the top of your Chat list.

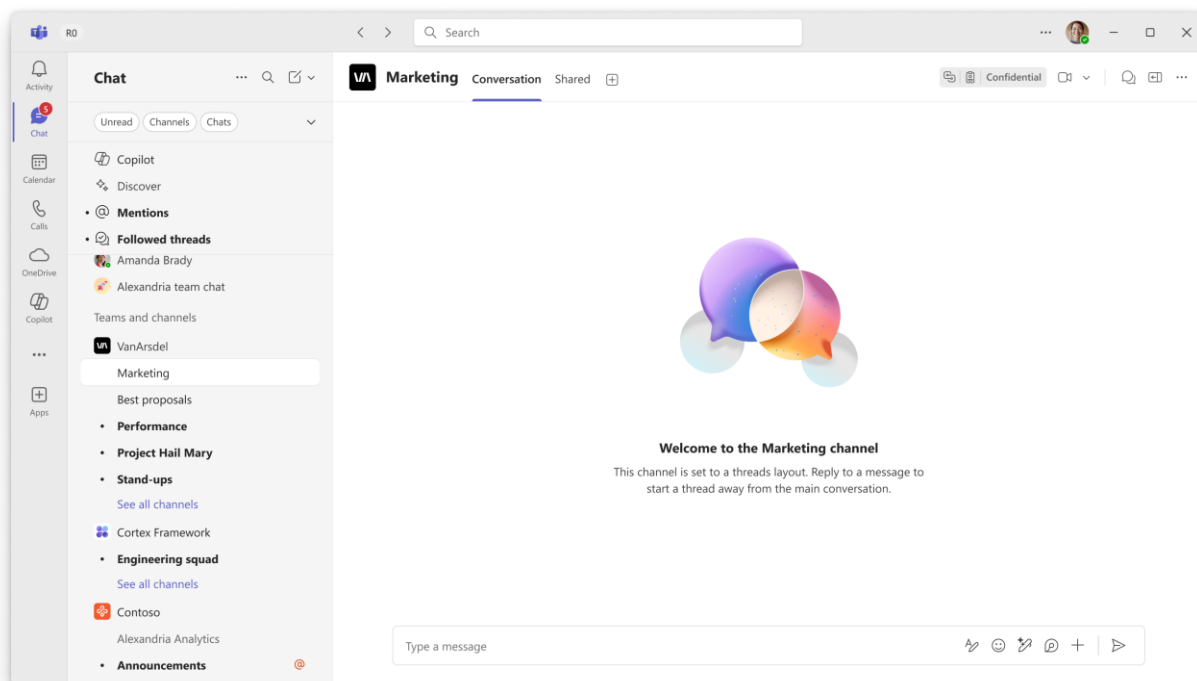
To explore best practices in more detail, refer to the [Best Practices Guide](#).

Creating or Converting to a Threads Channel

To create a new threads channel, go to a team and select **More options** > **Add channel**, then select **Threads** as the layout.

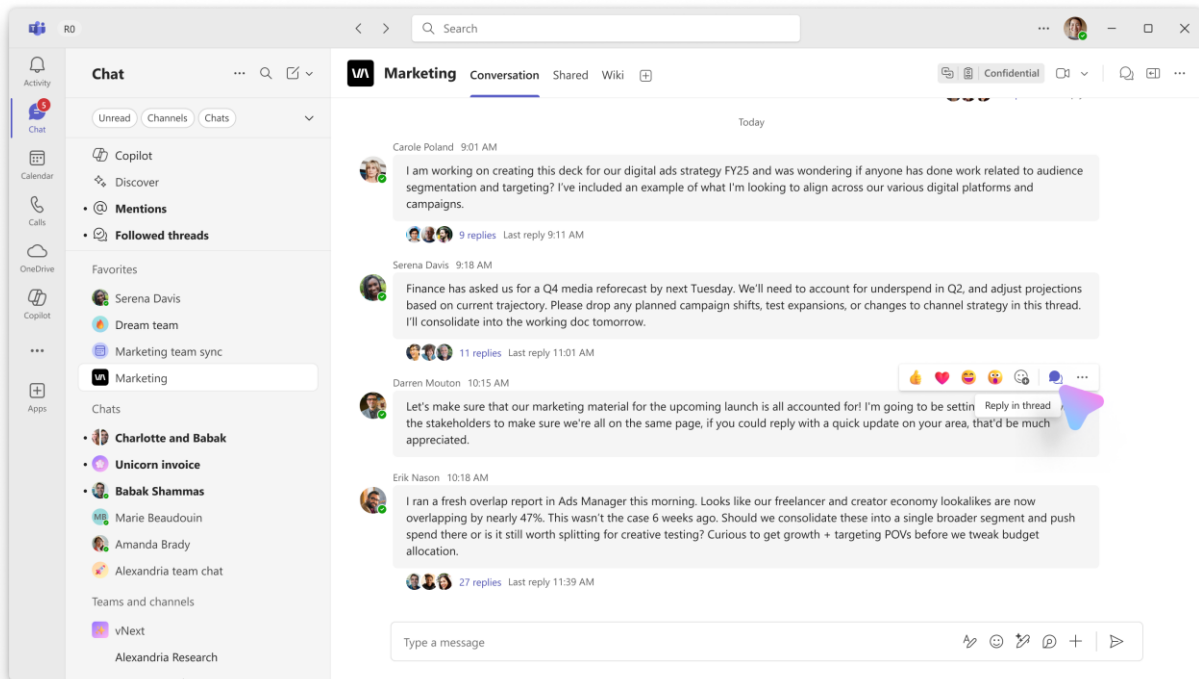
To convert an existing channel from posts to threads, go to the channel, select **More options** > **Manage channel**. This action is only available to those with the right permissions. The layout of the channel can be switched back and forth between threaded and post-reply whenever. For more info on how to create a channel, go to [Create a standard, private, or shared channel in Microsoft Teams](#)



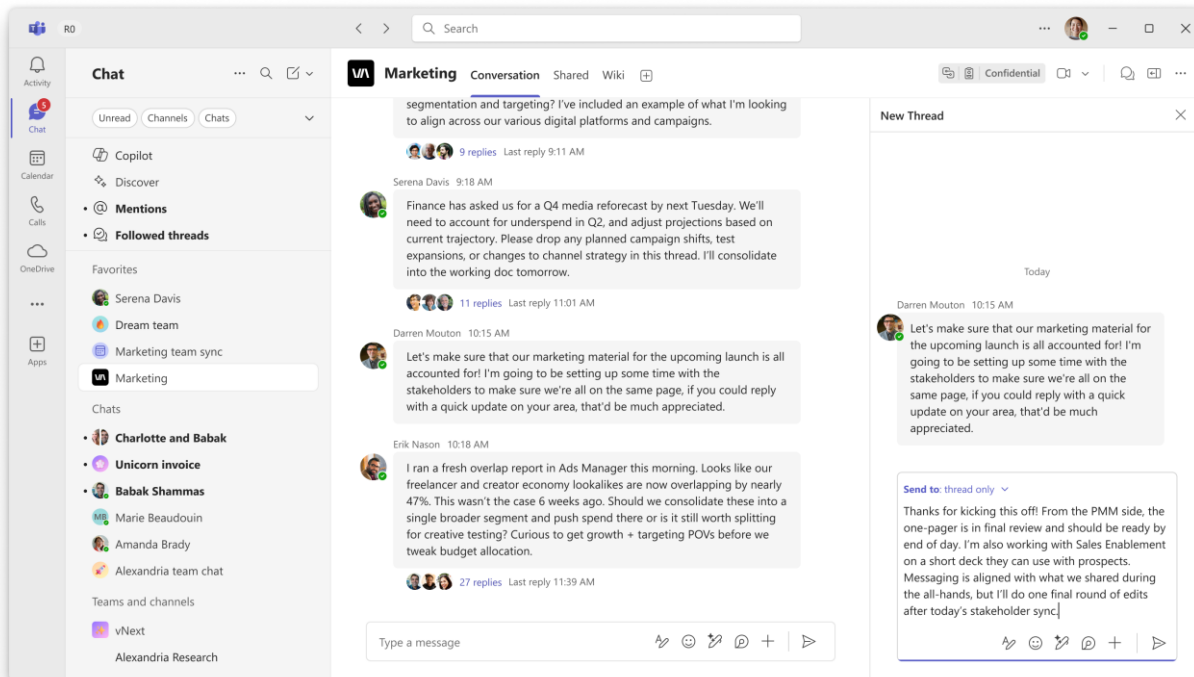


Replying in a Thread

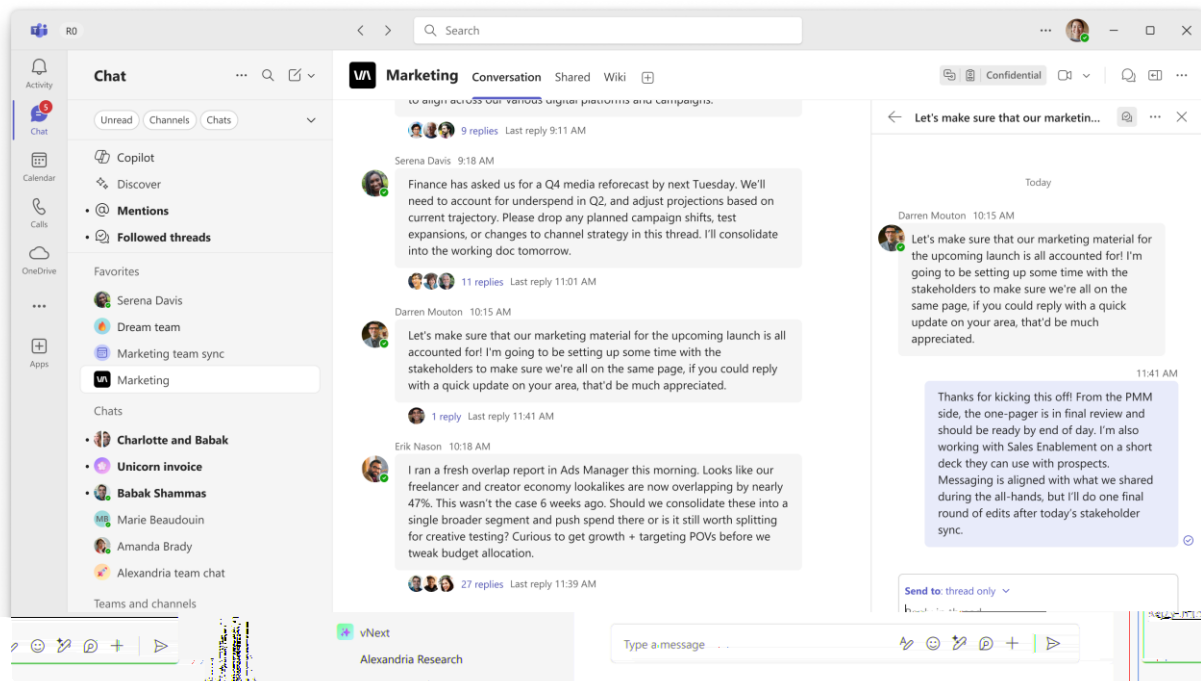
Start a thread by hovering over a message and click **Reply in thread**. The side pane will open, and you will be able to compose a reply in the thread. Upon sending, the message will render as a reply in the right pane.



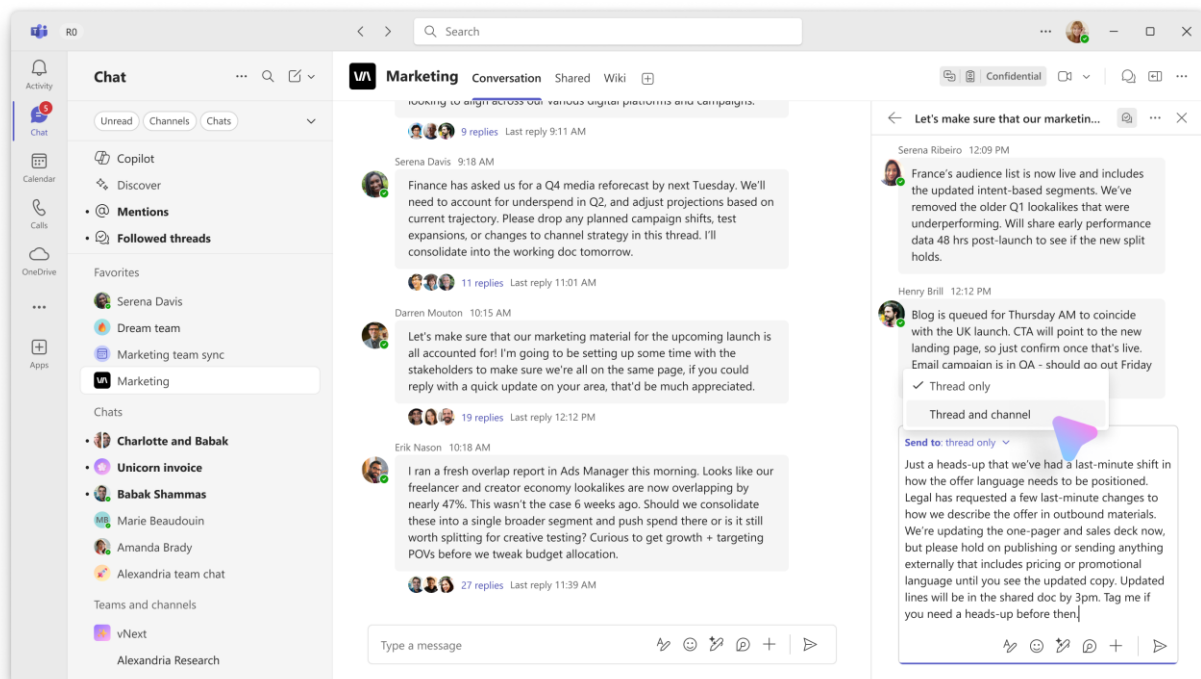
The screenshot shows the Microsoft Teams chat interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation options: Activity, Chat, Calendar, Calls, OneDrive, Copilot, and Apps. The 'Chat' section is active, showing a list of chats including 'Serena Davis', 'Dream team', 'Marketing team sync', and 'Marketing'. The main window displays a conversation in the 'Marketing' channel. The chat history shows several messages from team members, including Carole Poland, Serena Davis, Darren Mouton, and Erik Nason. A 'Reply in thread' button is visible next to a message from Darren Mouton. The bottom of the chat window has a 'Type a message' input field and a row of icons for emojis, attachments, and other chat functions.

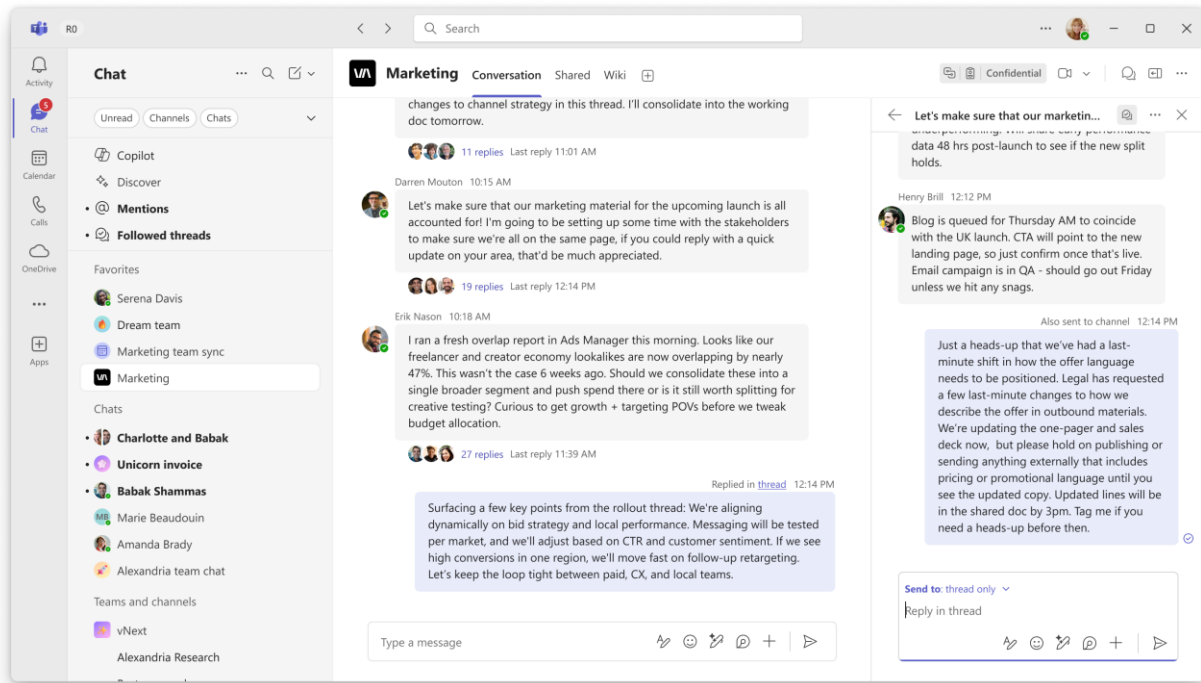


This screenshot shows the same Microsoft Teams chat interface, but with a 'New Thread' sidebar open on the right. The sidebar contains a message from Darren Mouton: 'Let's make sure that our marketing material for the upcoming launch is all accounted for! I'm going to be setting up some time with the stakeholders to make sure we're all on the same page, if you could reply with a quick update on your area, that'd be much appreciated.' Below the message is a 'Send to: thread only' dropdown menu and a text area with the following content: 'Thanks for kicking this off! From the PMM side, the one-pager is in final review and should be ready by end of day. I'm also working with Sales Enablement on a short deck they can use with prospects. Messaging is aligned with what we shared during the all-hands, but I'll do one final round of edits after today's stakeholder sync.' The main chat window shows the same conversation history as the first screenshot, but the 'Reply in thread' button is now a 'New Thread' button.



Coming soon: You may also share a message to thread and channel. This is helpful for when you want to share the outcome of a discussion or update everyone on a decision. Once sent, the message will appear in both the reply chain and main canvas. Any future replies will stay neatly organized in the one thread.





Re-accessing a Thread

You can re-access threads all created threads in a channel via the thread list entry point, located in the upper right corner. Upon selecting the entry point, the thread list will display a list of all the threads in the given channel. Threads bold to display unread activity, and are re-ordered by recency of replies, with the threads with newest replies at the top of the list.

Activity

Chat

Calendar

Calls

OneDrive

Copilot

...

Apps

Unread

Channels

Chats

Copilot

Discover

Mentions

Followed threads

Favorites

Serena Davis

Dream team

Marketing team sync

Marketing

Chats

Charlotte and Babak

Unicorn invoice

Babak Shammamas

Marie Beaudouin

Amanda Brady

Alexandria team chat

Teams and channels

vNext

Alexandria Research

Marketing

Conversation

Shared

Wiki

Confidential

Open threads

Carole Poland 9:01 AM

I am working on creating this deck for our digital ads strategy FY25 and was wondering if anyone has done work related to audience segmentation and targeting? I've included an example of what I'm looking to align across our various digital platforms and campaigns.

9 replies Last reply 9:11 AM

Serena Davis 9:18 AM

Finance has asked us for a Q4 media reforecast by next Tuesday. We'll need to account for underspend in Q2, and adjust projections based on current trajectory. Please drop any planned campaign shifts, test expansions, or changes to channel strategy in this thread. I'll consolidate into the working doc tomorrow.

11 replies Last reply 11:01 AM

Darren Mouton 10:15 AM

Let's make sure that our marketing material for the upcoming launch is all accounted for! I'm going to be setting up some time with the stakeholders to make sure we're all on the same page, if you could reply with a quick update on your area, that'd be much appreciated.

19 replies Last reply 12:12 PM

Erik Nason 10:18 AM

I ran a fresh overlap report in Ads Manager this morning. Looks like our freelancer and creator economy lookalikes are now overlapping by nearly 47%. This wasn't the case 6 weeks ago. Should we consolidate these into a single broader segment and push spend there or is it still worth splitting for creative testing? Curious to get growth + targeting POVs before we tweak budget allocation.

27 replies Last reply 11:39 AM

Type a message

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Activity

Chat

Calendar

Calls

OneDrive

Copilot

...

Apps

Unread

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Copilot

Discover

Mentions

Followed threads

Favorites

Serena Davis

Dream team

Marketing team sync

Marketing

Chats

Charlotte and Babak

Unicorn invoice

Babak Shammamas

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Type a message

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Threads

Let's make sure that our marketing... 12:12 PM

Karin: We've implemented the new landing page structure, but load time spiked after we added th... 11 replies

I ran a fresh overlap report in Ads M... 11:39 AM

Charlotte: Huge congrats to everyone involved - the new content direction feels really strong. Grea... 27 replies

Deck and internal FAQ are done and... 11:28 AM

Mona: We're a little behind on the :15 cut Jamal mentioned. The VO took longer than expected to... 11 replies

I am working on creating this deck for... 11:11 AM

Colin: I worked on the segmentation model we used for the Q3 campaign across Meta and Linke... 9 replies

Media list is prepped and embargoed p... 10:18 AM

Henry: +1 to that. Also wondering if we set some baseline metrics for what counts as "top-perform... 19 replies

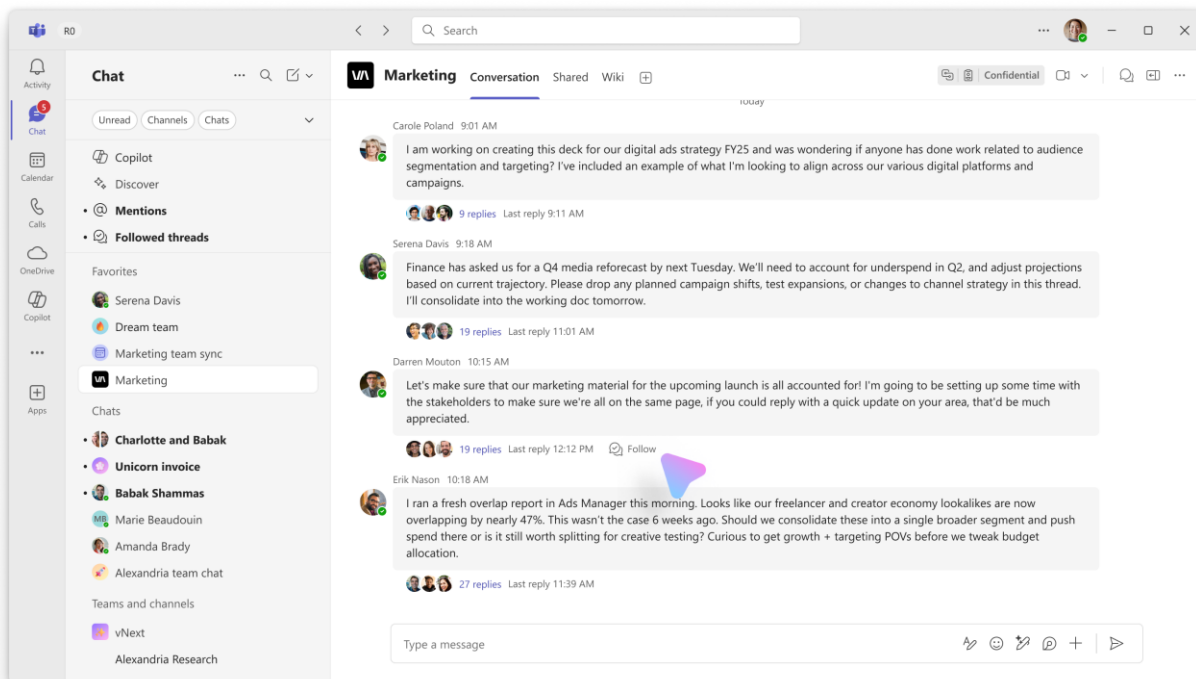
Bounce rate on our primary campaign L... 10:14 AM

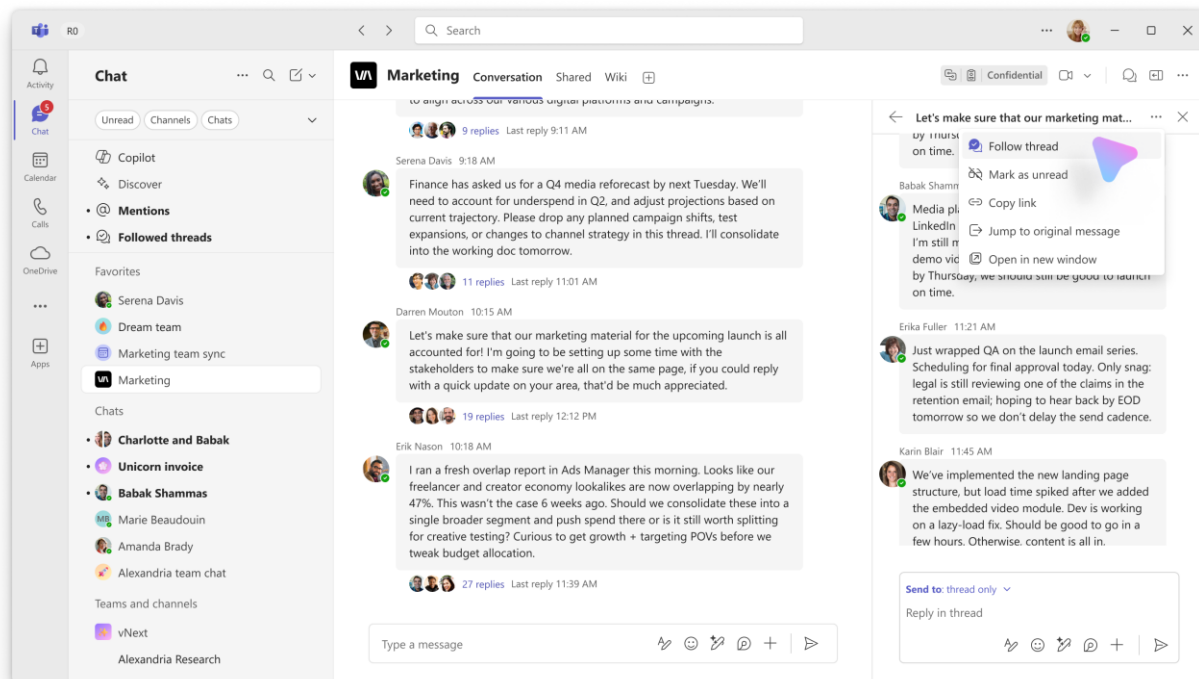
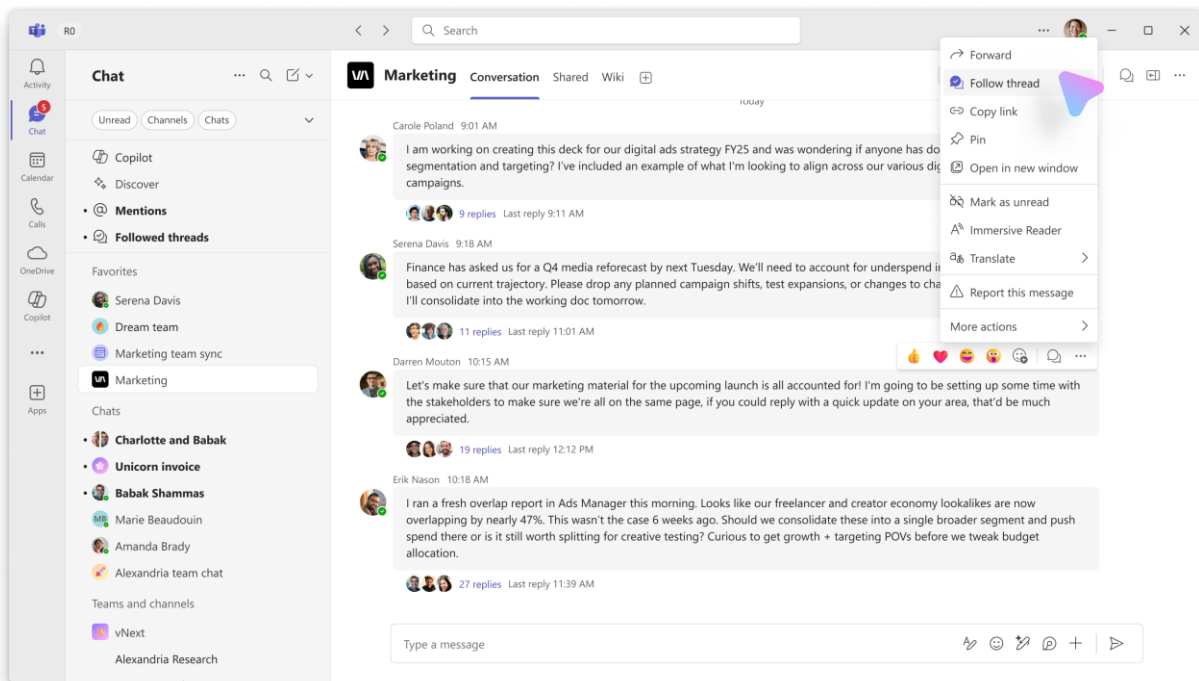
Darren: Could be an issue with load time, headline clarity, or scroll depth. Let's start a discussion here... 8 replies

Following a Thread

There will be a new gesture, “Follow thread”. This provides the option to follow threads in order to receive updates. A thread can be followed automatically or manually.

- A thread will be **automatically** followed if you are the author of the root message, if you replies in the thread or if you are @mentioned in the thread. You can adjust this in your Teams Settings > Notifications.
- A thread can be **manually** followed by selecting the "follow thread" entry point...
 - From the message actions: Hover over a message, click on the “...”, and select Follow Thread.
 - From the main canvas: Hover over existing replies on a thread, and select Follow Thread.
 - From the right pane thread view: click on the “...” in the header to find Follow thread.

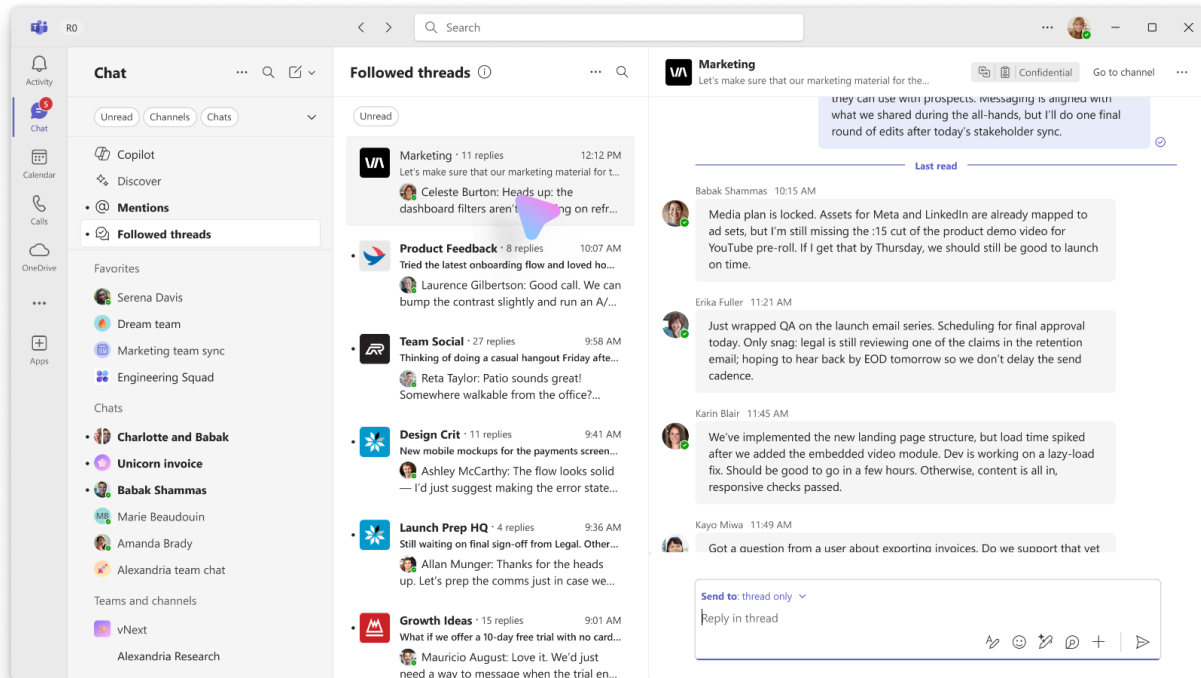




You can also configure your settings to Follow all threads in a channel of particular interest to you. Click on the “...” menu next to the channel name and select Channel notifications. From there, toggle Follow all toggle so that it’s on.

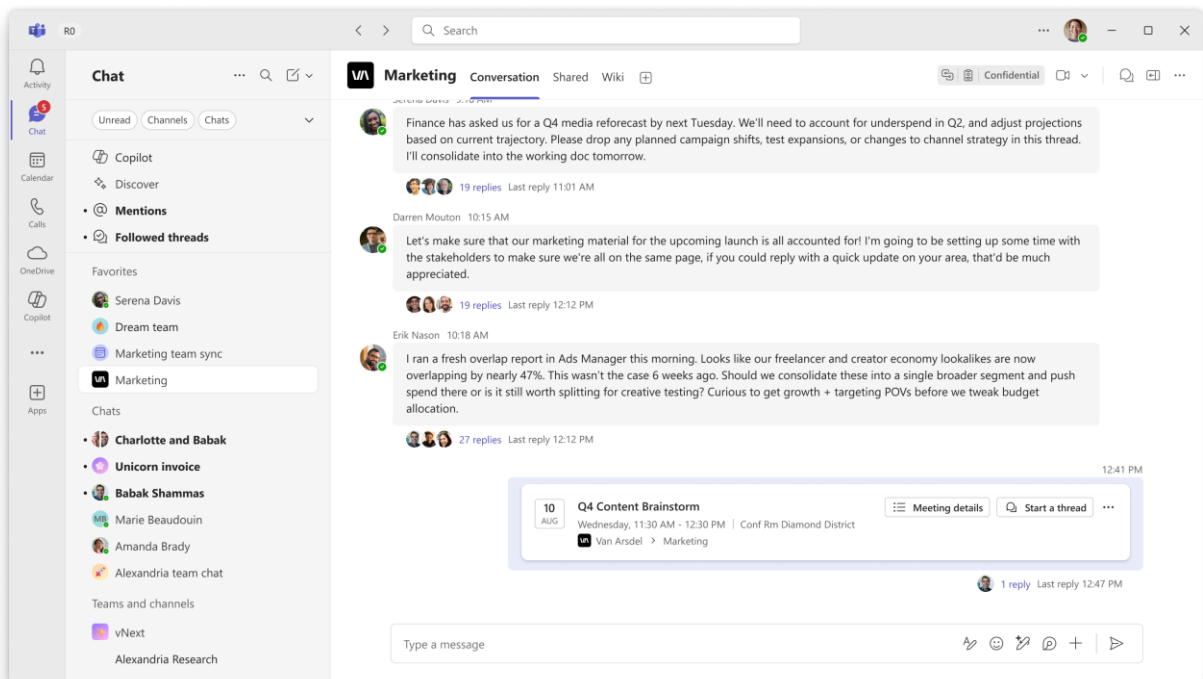
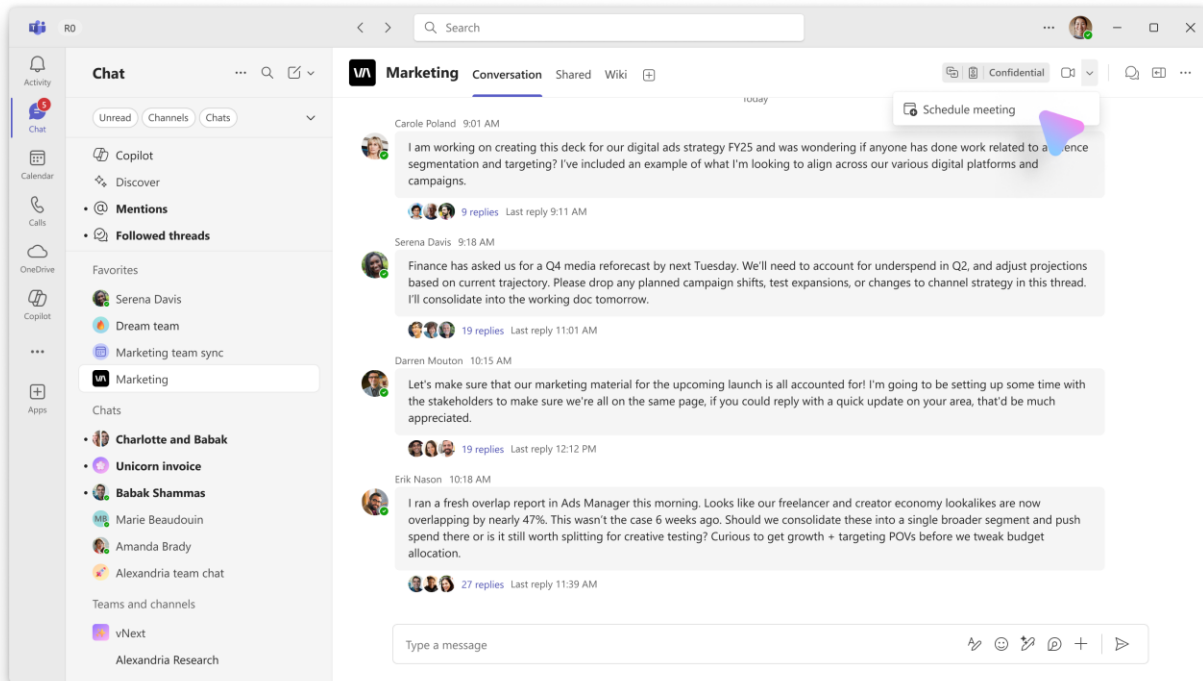
Catching up and Triage

To see all your followed threads across all channels at a glance, navigate to the Followed Threads section at the top of the adaptive rail on the left. Here, you will see a preview of each followed thread. Threads in this view will be ordered based on time of most recent reply and will bold to indicate unread messages.



Schedule Channel Meetings

In threaded channels, you will have the option to schedule meetings. All meeting conversations will have their own thread within the channel. To have the meeting show up on relevant people's Outlook calendars, make sure to manually select each relevant attendee during meeting creation.

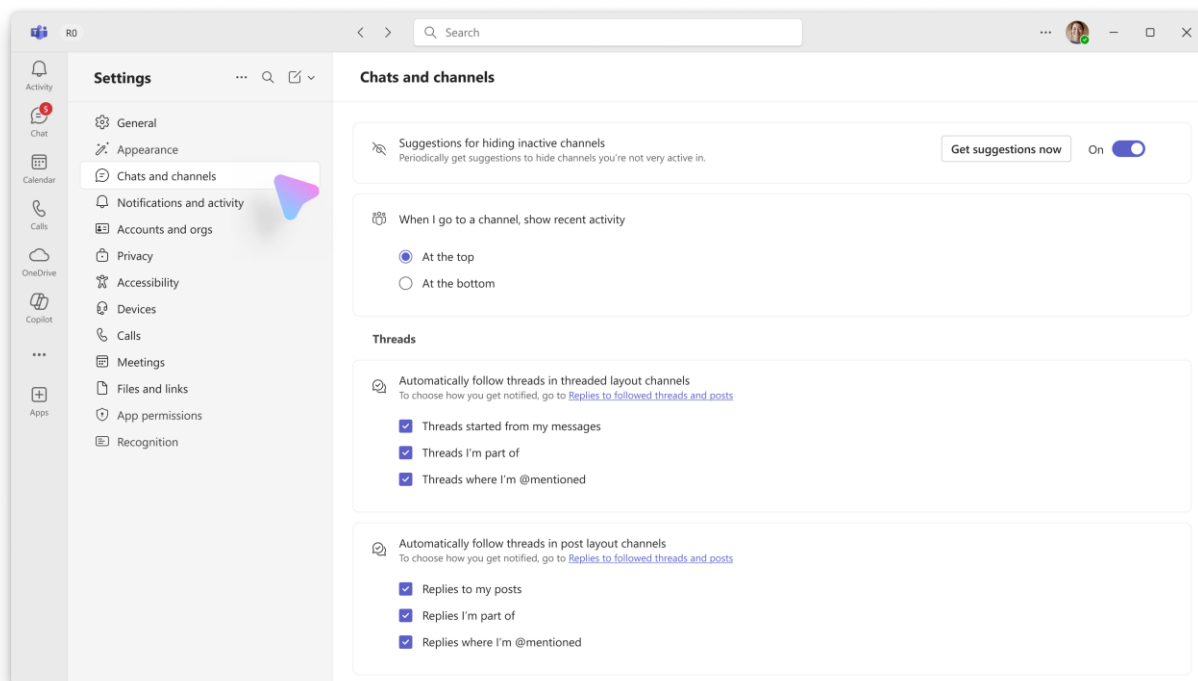


You will be able to start a Meet Now for an audio-first synchronous gathering space. Click on the Meet Now button and anyone else can drop in. This does not call anyone in. The conversation in that Meet Now chat will be a separate thread in the channel for easy organization.

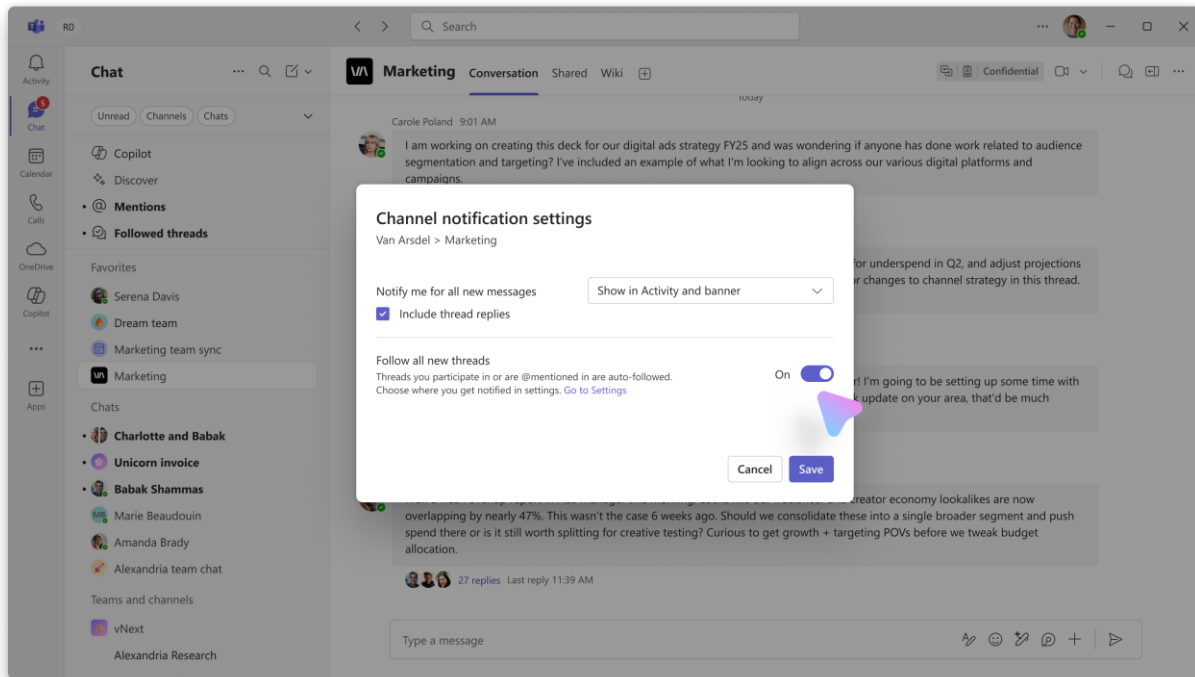
Adjusting Notification Settings

There are two ways to adjust your settings for Threaded channels.

First, you can configure through Teams settings, and this will apply to all your channels. Go to Notifications and activity, and scroll down to Chats and channels.



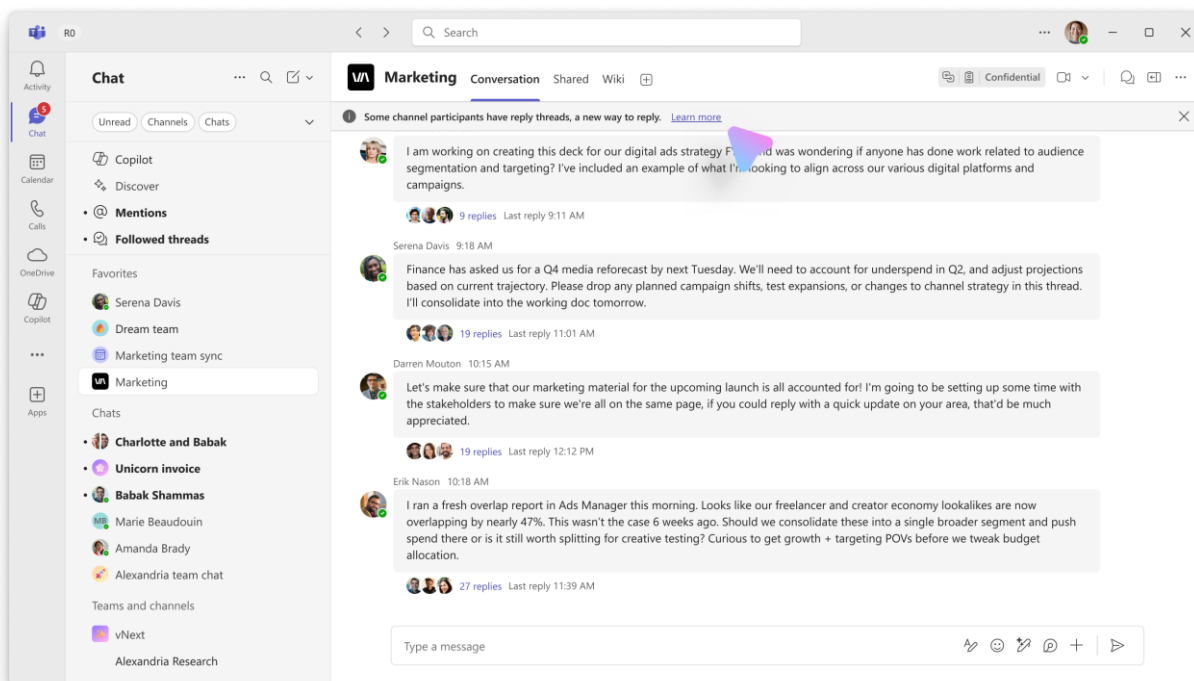
Second, you can configure a particular channel's settings. Go to the “...” menu on the channel in the Chat list, and click on Channel notifications.



Compatibility with Different Layout Views

If you do not yet have the most recent threading experience, you will see the new chat layout channels as the traditional post-reply channels. This may cause some posts to render out of order, may cause some issues with bolding of the channel, and may cause some issues with notifications.

If not everyone has the newest chat layout experience, changing the channel to a post layout using the Edit Channel options would ensure that all you have the same view.



The screenshot shows a Microsoft Teams chat window. The left sidebar contains navigation icons for Activity, Chat, Calendar, Calls, OneDrive, Copilot, and Apps. The 'Chat' section is active, showing a list of chats including 'Marketing' (selected), 'Charlotte and Babak', 'Unicorn invoice', 'Babak Shammass', 'Marie Beaudouin', 'Amanda Brady', 'Alexandria team chat', 'vNext', and 'Alexandria Research'.

The main chat area is titled 'Marketing' and shows a conversation. At the top, there is a search bar and a 'Confidential' status indicator. A notification banner states: 'Some channel participants have reply threads, a new way to reply. [Learn more](#)'. The chat history includes several messages:

- A message from an unnamed user: 'I am working on creating this deck for our digital ads strategy. I was wondering if anyone has done work related to audience segmentation and targeting? I've included an example of what I'm looking to align across our various digital platforms and campaigns.' (9 replies, Last reply 9:11 AM)
- A message from Serena Davis: 'Finance has asked us for a Q4 media reforecast by next Tuesday. We'll need to account for underspend in Q2, and adjust projections based on current trajectory. Please drop any planned campaign shifts, test expansions, or changes to channel strategy in this thread. I'll consolidate into the working doc tomorrow.' (19 replies, Last reply 11:01 AM)
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The bottom of the chat window features a text input field with the placeholder 'Type a message' and a set of icons for emojis, attachments, and other chat functions.