



Sending text messages from your computer.



Text messaging has become a normal part of most of our lives. Alerting your group about an important event or sending a message of inspiration can be quick and beneficial. It's possible to send a "mass text message" from your cell phone. The challenge is most phones allow only ten telephone numbers to go in a "group." If a team leader/captain creates enough groups on their phone, a mass text can be sent by simply sending it to several groups.

Some schools/organizations have invested in the technology to send a mass text from a computer. If your school/organization has that technology it would be smart to utilize it.

However, it's possible to send a text message from a computer without special software. This method allows a sender to send a text to an unlimited number of people. It takes a few minutes to set up, but communicating via text message is a fast way to connect with your group.

Each cell phone company has a unique "code" for sending messages from the computer. For example, if someone is a Verizon customer, their code is phone#@vtext.com Example 555123456@vtext.com

Basically, you will need to set up an "email address book" using cell phone numbers. Simply go to your address book and type in an individual's name and then in the email address box/field enter the phone number and "code" that will allow you to send the text. In addition to the text message, you might consider sending the message to someone's email address as well. By duplicating the message you have increased the chances they receive it.

Most cell phone companies limit text messages to 120-160 characters including spaces. It's important to be brief.

The following is a list of codes for several cell companies.

- AT&T** phone#@txt.att.net
- Verizon** phone#@vtext.com
- Sprint** phone#@message.sprintpcs.com
- Virgin Mobile** phone#@vmobl.com
- TMobile** phone#@tmomail.net
- Nextel** phone#messaging.nextel.com
- U.S. Cellular** phone#@email.uscc.net
- SunCom** phone#@tms.suncom.com
- Powertel** phone#@ptel.net
- Alltel** phone#@message.alltel.com

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