Preparing for the hybrid workplace with Webex Devices

Work is what you do, not where you go

The workplace is undergoing a dramatic shift that is fundamentally changing how people work and collaborate. As the workforce continues to prove that remote work can be successful, the trend of employee flexibility will grow. A recent report revealed that 64% of people agreed that the ability to work from anywhere instead of coming into the office directly affects their decision on whether they stay at or leave a job. In addition, a study by Dimensional Research also show that 98% of all meetings will include at least one remote participant.

The shift requires organizations to reimagine how people work together in different locations and the experiences they’ll expect at home and in the workplace. To make the most of this new environment, the hybrid workplace model has emerged as a viable solution that benefits both the business and employees.

Hybrid workplace benefits

- **Boost productivity** by delivering a seamless collaboration experience in any location
- **Improve collaboration** with high-quality video conferencing and easy-to-use whiteboarding capabilities for local and remote teams
- **Provide intelligent workspace experiences** to reduce friction and deliver important information
- **Increase employee wellbeing** and maintain talent by creating a safe, flexible and engaging environment
- **Respond quickly to change** and ensure business continuity with a scalable platform
- **Optimize workplace and real estate costs** with analytics for every workspace
The hybrid workplace supports a blend of in-office and remote workers while empowering people to choose where they work for the day. Whether at the home office, a coffee shop, a local co-working space or in the corporate office, employees can choose the environment that aligns to where they will be most productive. For example, if a person needs to get focused work done, they may choose to work from home or in a local co-working space with fewer distractions and more time to focus from reduced travel. On the other hand, if they have a training session, town hall meeting, or their team is getting together in person, they can go into the corporate office.

This increased flexibility means that organizations will have to prepare for a mix of in-person and remote participants in every meeting. The right technology in the workplace and remote offices is required for employees to have a frictionless and productive experience, no matter where they are.

Hybrid workplace solutions

Webex Devices
Built for every workstyle and workspace, Webex collaboration endpoints offer high-quality video and audio conferencing, digital whiteboarding, content sharing, and advanced AI features that let you work with others like you’re in the same room.

Webex Messaging
The most engaging, interactive video conferencing service lets you instantly meet face-to-face and give everyone an equal seat at the table via exceptional audio, video, content sharing, AI-powered features and inclusive experiences.

Webex Meetings
The most engaging, interactive video conferencing service lets you instantly meet face-to-face and give everyone an equal seat at the table via exceptional audio, video, content sharing, AI-powered features and inclusive experiences.
Supporting the new hybrid workspace

Delivering consistent and seamless collaboration experiences

Enabling every employee with a full-featured, intuitive collaboration experience that allows them to message, meet, call, share content, and collaborate from any space is a foundational requirement for the hybrid workplace. A platform that provides these key collaboration capabilities and interoperates with the meeting platforms and productivity tools people use every day so workstreams aren’t interrupted and people remain engaged and productive throughout the day is essential. Collaboration point products alone can’t solve these challenges. Webex can.

Webex provides the same, open experience everywhere so your team can get stuff done:

• A single, integrated portfolio provides the ability to share and organize ideas, conduct scrum meetings, and brainstorm with local and remote participants.

• Webex users can leverage familiar tools and workflows in a familiar UI with business applications, such as Office 365, Google Docs, Trello, Miro and Mural to support uninterrupted workstreams.

• Webex users can share screens with any remote participants, creating a seamless experience and removing geographic boundaries.

• A modern, cohesive user interface and intelligent capabilities such as background noise removal, virtual backgrounds, people focus, and immersive sharing to help you make an impact – wherever you work, while reducing video fatigue.

• Frictionless connection and interoperability to allow people to join meetings on any platform without compromising on quality and reliability, with a seamless one-button-to-join experience.

• Premium, personalized experiences from the home office workstation and the dedicated desk to the hot desk, with instant device pairing and access to your personal workspace.

• Unified, single-pane-of-glass management and analytics across users, devices and workspaces, so that your team can manage hybrid deployments at scale and maximize your return on device investments.

Traditional office locations

Focus is on creating open and flexible workspaces with designs that allow teams to collaborate in safe and productive ways.

• More video devices
• Touchless enabled devices
• Control via smartphones
• Space utilization analytics

Work from home

Focus is on ensuring that the employee is equipped with tools that allow them to feel connected to their teams while supporting their workflows.

• Quality dedicated video device
• Enhanced user experiences
• Headsets for minimizing background noise
Preparing the workplace and workforce for hybrid collaboration

The right strategy for the hybrid workplace requires the right technology choices. With today’s meeting rooms blending virtual and physical spaces, people need access to the tools that result in high-quality collaboration experiences and improve productivity wherever they are. Webex® Devices and the Webex platform are designed to deliver high-quality, authentic interactions between local and remote teams. When you meet face-to-face with video conferencing, call, message, or co-create on a whiteboard, it doesn’t matter where you are—at home, at a hot desk, in a coffee bar, in a conference room, or a training room with others. You can enjoy a seamless, intuitive, and effortless experience.

A consistent experience no matter where or how you work

**Touchless**
Join calls with Webex Assistant

**Smartphone control**
Pair and share, device recognition to control the call

**Space utilization**
People count, room reservations

**Digital signage**
Share real time messages and security updates

**Creative work**
Remote team collaboration with whiteboarding

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Office experience

While the hybrid workplace can reduce real estate footprints, the office is here to stay. It will remain your central hub for rich collaboration experiences, co-creation and brainstorming, team building, training and education. But with a rotating cast of in-office workers, the traditional workplace experience will no longer suffice.

Collaboration devices are going to be increasingly important as you look to connect more distributed teams. With a more dispersed workforce, being able to seamlessly connect those physically present with those who are virtual is critical, and video will be an important tool in making that happen. You’ll also have to account for an increasing number of employees visiting the office that are unfamiliar with their surroundings. Technology will be needed to assist them in finding the right available space to work and collaborate.

Webex Devices are designed to provide intelligent workplace experiences and high-quality collaboration:

- From the desk to the board room, the Webex Devices portfolio includes a device for every space so you have a consistent experience, no matter where you are.
- Webex Devices are powered by RoomOS, which delivers the same seamless collaboration experience across devices and spaces.
- With the Webex Desk Mini, Webex Desk, Webex Desk Pro, Webex Board Pro, or the Webex App, local and remote teams can collaborate and co-create simultaneously with an infinite whiteboard canvas or any shared content.
- Webex Devices can easily be controlled from personal devices (laptop or mobile phone) and provide for easy, wireless content sharing.
- Webex Assistant provides touchless device controls to make it easy to manage meetings and address hygiene concerns over touching shared devices.
- Single-touch and voice-controlled room booking and space reservation allows employees to find a space to work or collaborate without the hassle of walking the floor or using a meeting room management tool.
- Digital signage helps drive employee awareness and engagement and provides safety alerts across your entire organization.
- Advanced analytics and sensors deliver vital information to IT and facility managers, including the ability to understand space utilization and room capacity with Webex Control Hub.
Remote work experience

Our personal office has become an extension of the traditional office. It’s more important than ever that we can work from anywhere, with access to the tools that support productivity. Remote employees need to be enabled with a video conferencing software or purpose-built video device, depending on the nature of work and their proximity to a physical office.

Remote collaboration can be a challenge if you don’t have the right tools. Attending back-to-back meetings on your laptop or via a secondary monitor is known to cause poor posture and the nagging issues of poor audio pickup, background noises, and low-quality cameras can disrupt the collaboration experience. As we’re immersed in remote work, it’s more important than ever to experience natural and authentic interactions, as though we were face-to-face. That’s because most of our meaning comes from non-verbal cues. Our ability to interact in high fidelity, whether in person or remotely, is critical to productivity.

Webex Devices provide the quality and efficiency needed for team collaboration in the personal office:

- Dedicated collaboration devices offer high-quality, face-to-face interaction with the same set of capabilities you’d expect to find in the office
- AI-enabled collaboration helps remove the friction from work, suppress background noises, and provides blurred or virtual backgrounds to minimize distractions
- The meeting happens on your video device, so your laptop is free from processing the audio and video while simultaneously running the meeting software—no overheating devices, no distracting fans; just a stellar experience
- Ideate and co-create at the desk effortlessly and keep your ideas flowing without ever running out of space to capture them with digital whiteboarding and content annotation
- Advanced noise cancelling headsets allow you to focus on the work without disrupting the meeting with common household background noises
- Fatigue-free, natural experiences promote good posture and great communication
Secure and scalable

Allowing employees to work from anywhere also adds new security requirements. Webex extends enterprise-class security to the home to optimize remote work for performance, cost, and security with end-to-end encryption. All messages, files, whiteboards, and actions are end-to-end encrypted, whether in transit, at rest, and even in use. Cloud and on-premises registration for devices makes it affordable and easy to deploy in any space. And with Control Hub, you get a seamless, smarter admin experience. Provision users, set security settings, manage every device, run diagnostics and get real-time workspace analytics using intuitive dashboards to continually monitor and optimize your spaces and resources.

Ready to make the shift to a hybrid workplace?

It’s time for rich collaboration experience to support your needs as they evolve. Webex Devices and the Webex platform can support the new hybrid workspace with flexible, seamless, and intuitive experiences for remote offices or an entire campus.

“We partnered with Cisco to enable collaboration, and accelerate it, because we could bring a whole organization, more than a thousand people on board very quickly... The product is such a revolution from what we had in the past.”

Arne Norheim – CEO, IBM Norway

Explore the Webex Devices portfolio

Choose which device is right for your space

Watch the video: Smart collaboration for human connection