

Pidgin

www.pidgin.im

Description: Pidgin is an easy to use and free chat client used by millions. Connect to AIM, MSN, Yahoo, and more chat networks all at once.

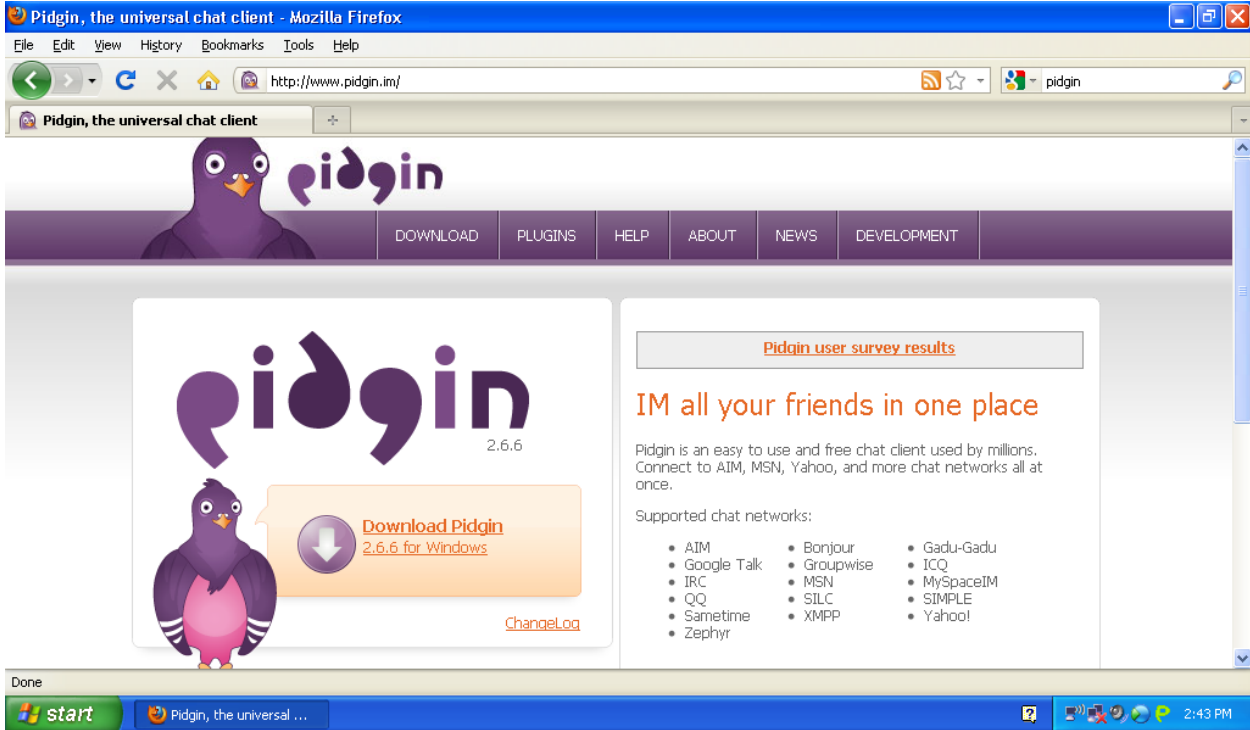
System Requirements: Windows XP, Windows Vista, or Windows 7

Signup Requirements: No signups are required to the pidgin site. All that is required is that you have at least one Instant Messenger screenname.

Installing Pidgin: Below is a guide to installing and using Pidgin

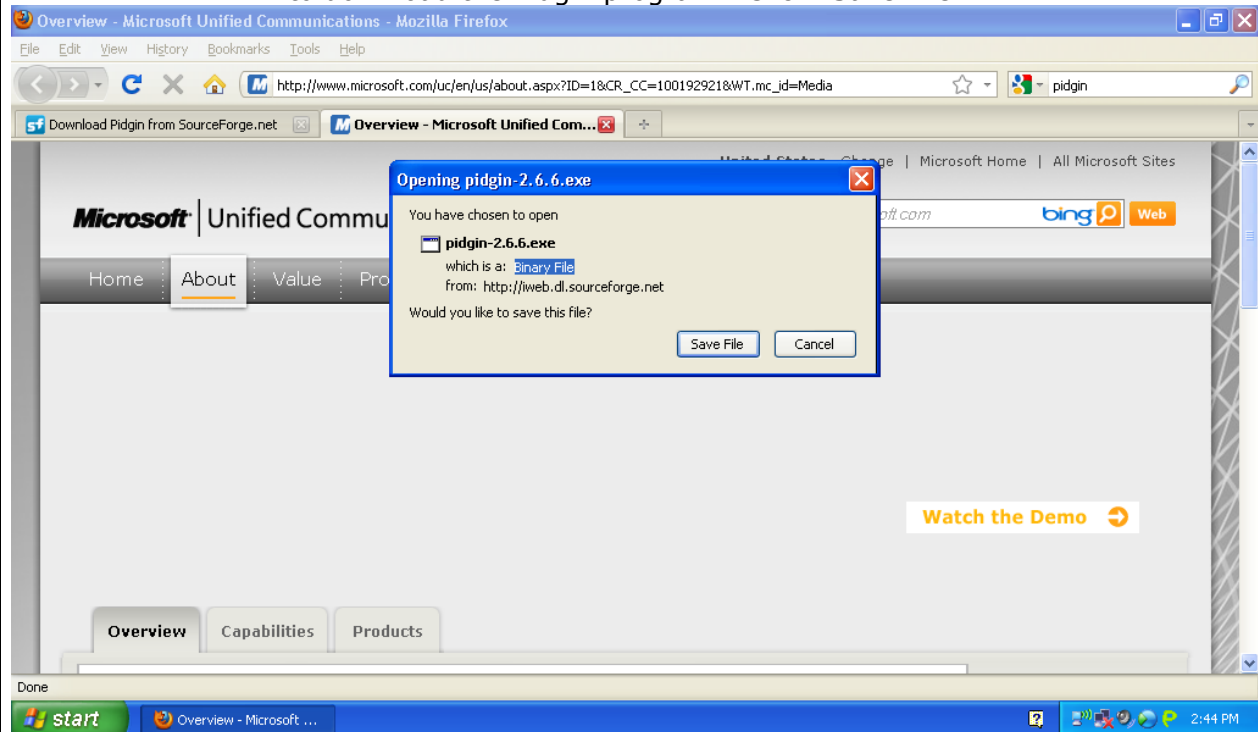
First, go to www.pidgin.im

On the homepage, there will be a large Download button, specialized to your current operating system. Click that link.

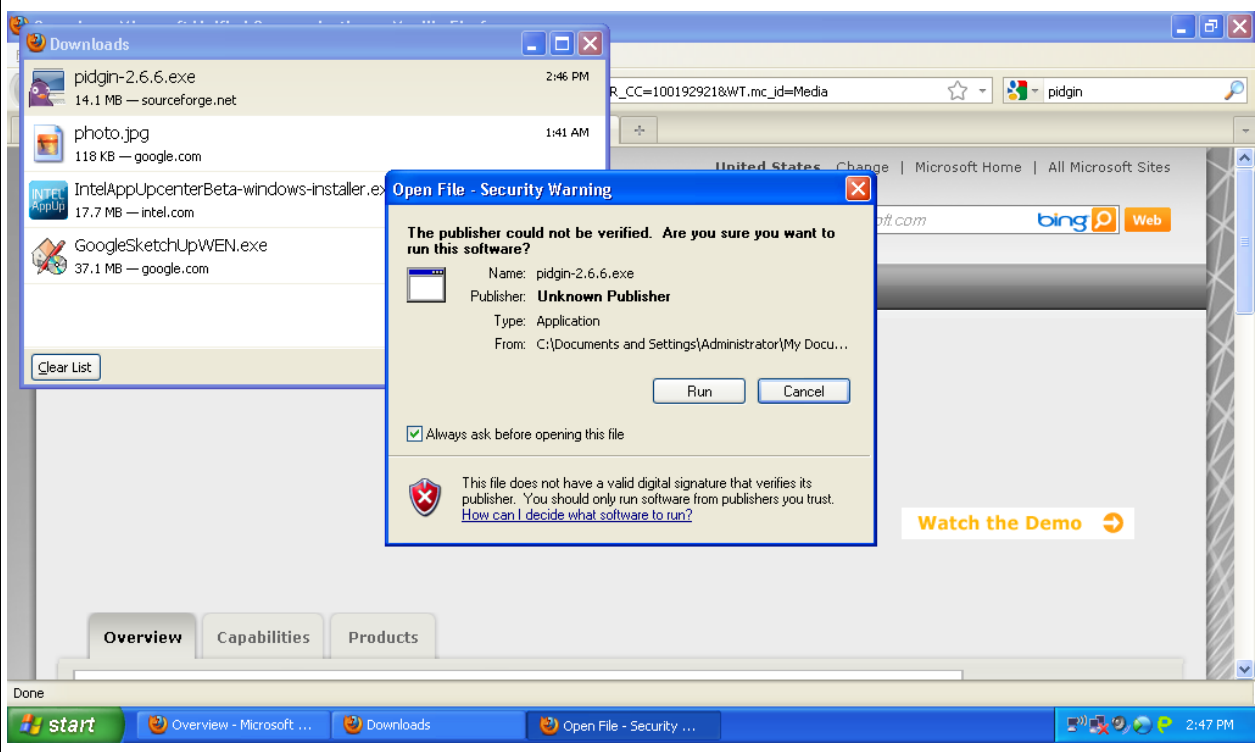


The screenshot shows the Pidgin website homepage in a Mozilla Firefox browser window. The browser title is "Pidgin, the universal chat client - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar shows "http://www.pidgin.im/". The website features a purple penguin logo and a navigation bar with links: DOWNLOAD, PLUGINS, HELP, ABOUT, NEWS, DEVELOPMENT. The main content area has a large "pidgin 2.6.6" logo with a penguin character and a "Download Pidgin 2.6.6 for Windows" button. To the right, there is a section titled "IM all your friends in one place" with a description and a list of supported chat networks: AIM, Google Talk, IRC, QQ, Sametime, Zephyr, Bonjour, Groupwise, MSN, SILC, XMPP, Gadu-Gadu, ICQ, MySpaceIM, SIMPLE, and Yahoo!.

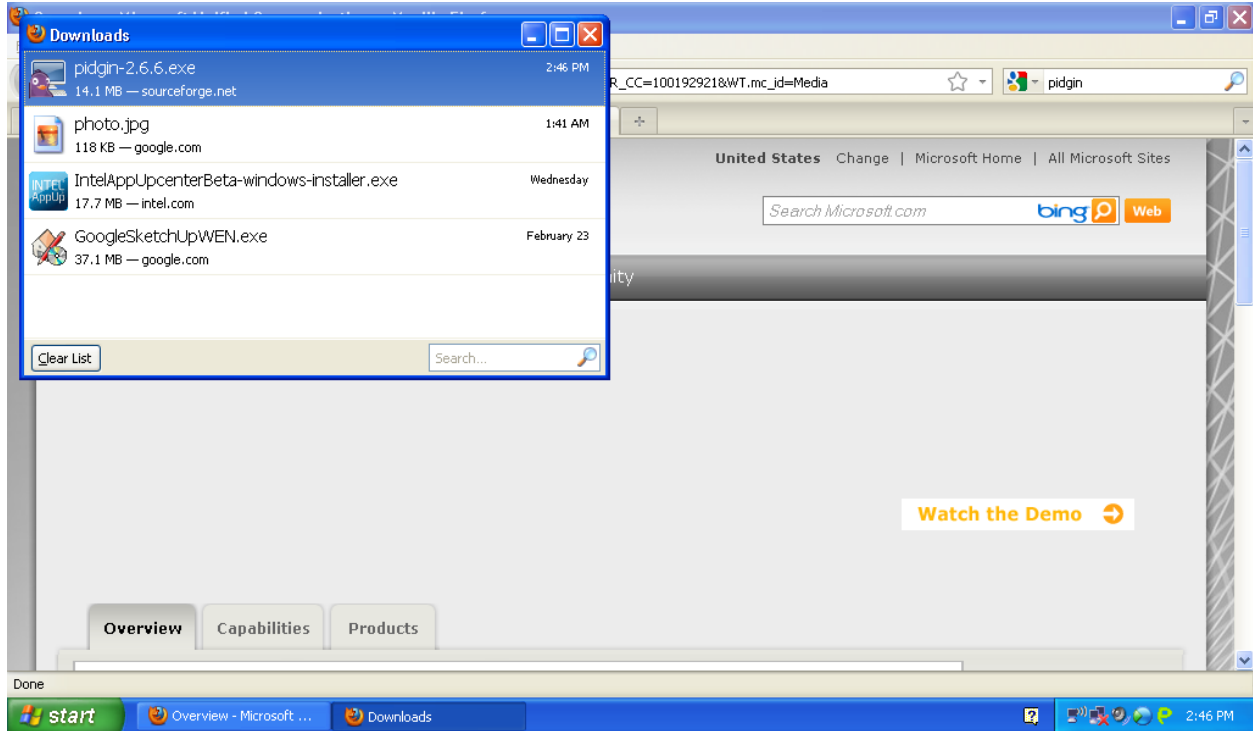
You will be redirected to Sourceforge.net for the download, and prompted by a confirmation to download the Pidgin program. Click "Save File".



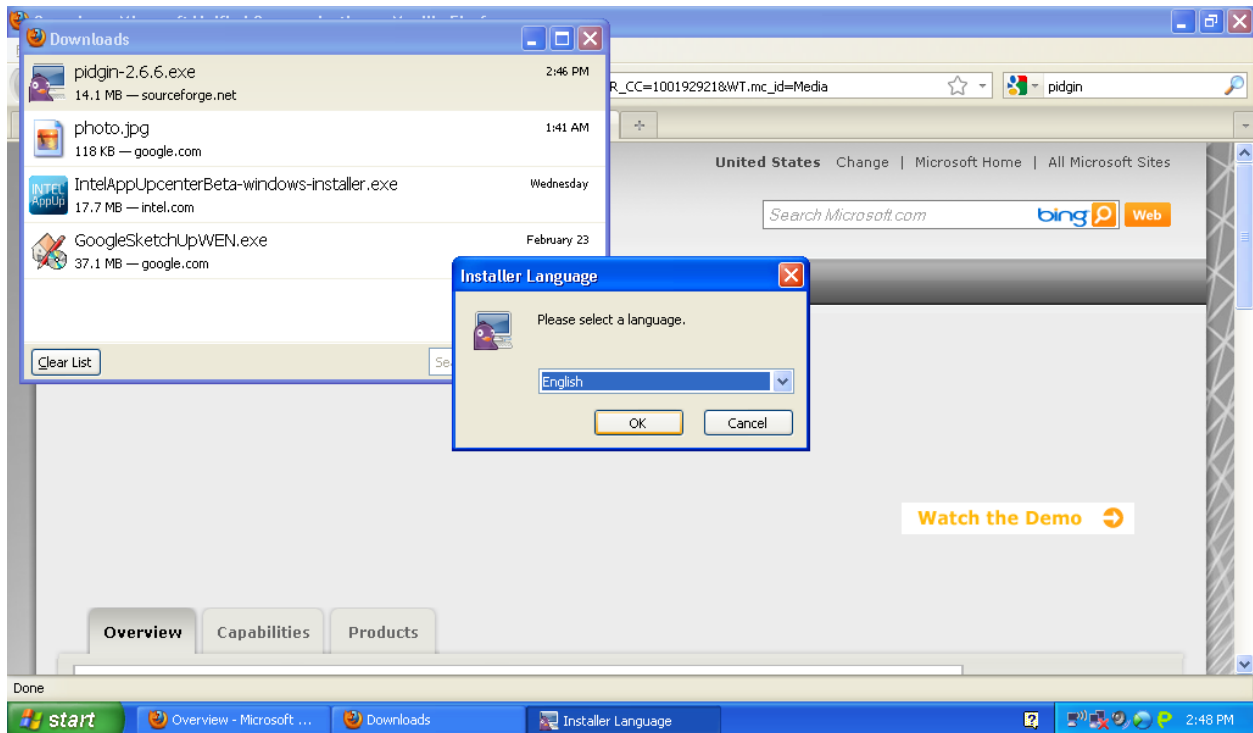
Another prompt will come up to confirm, click "Run", and the download will begin.



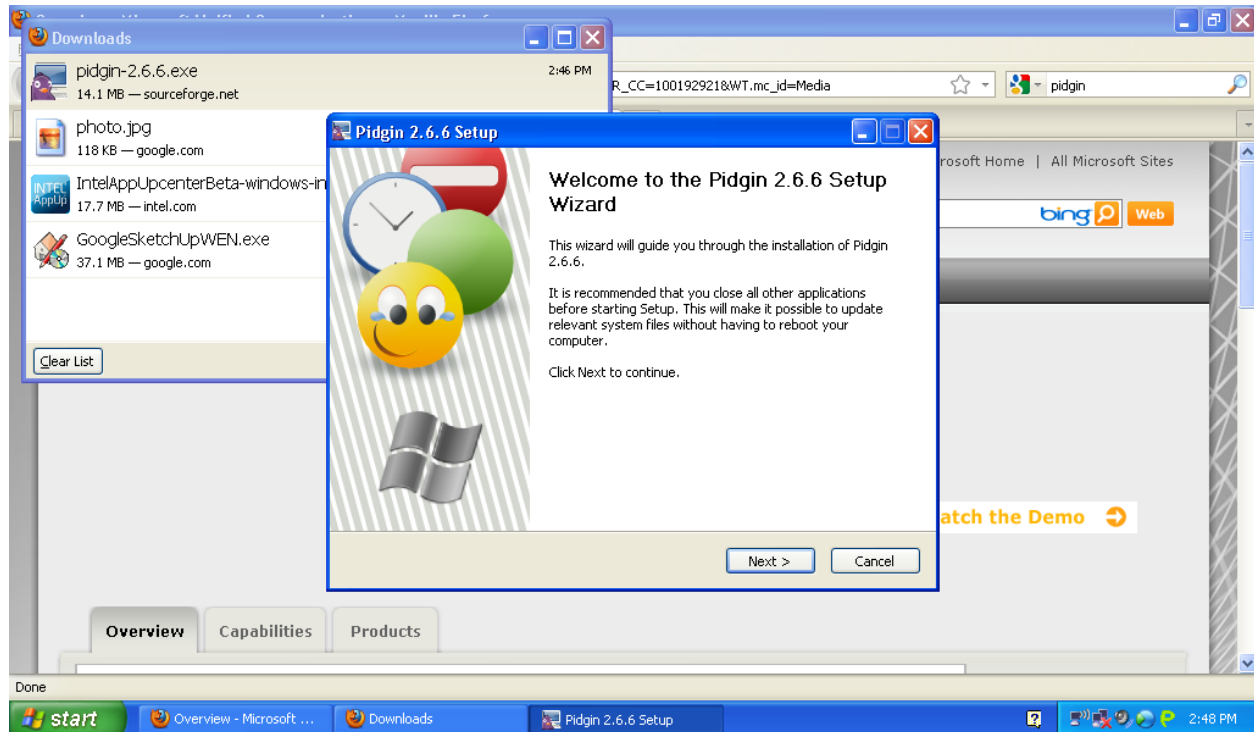
Once the download is finished, click on the file to open and install.



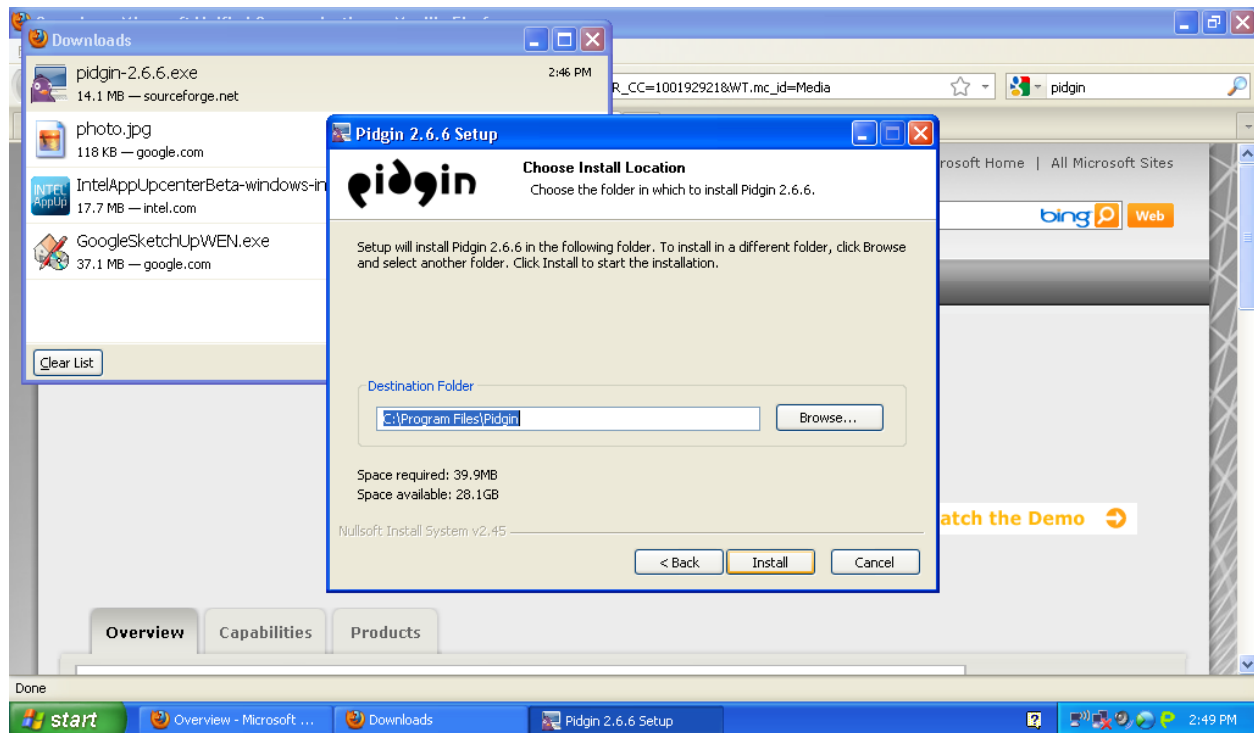
Pidgin will ask for your language type. Choose your preferred language from the drop-down menu, and click "OK".



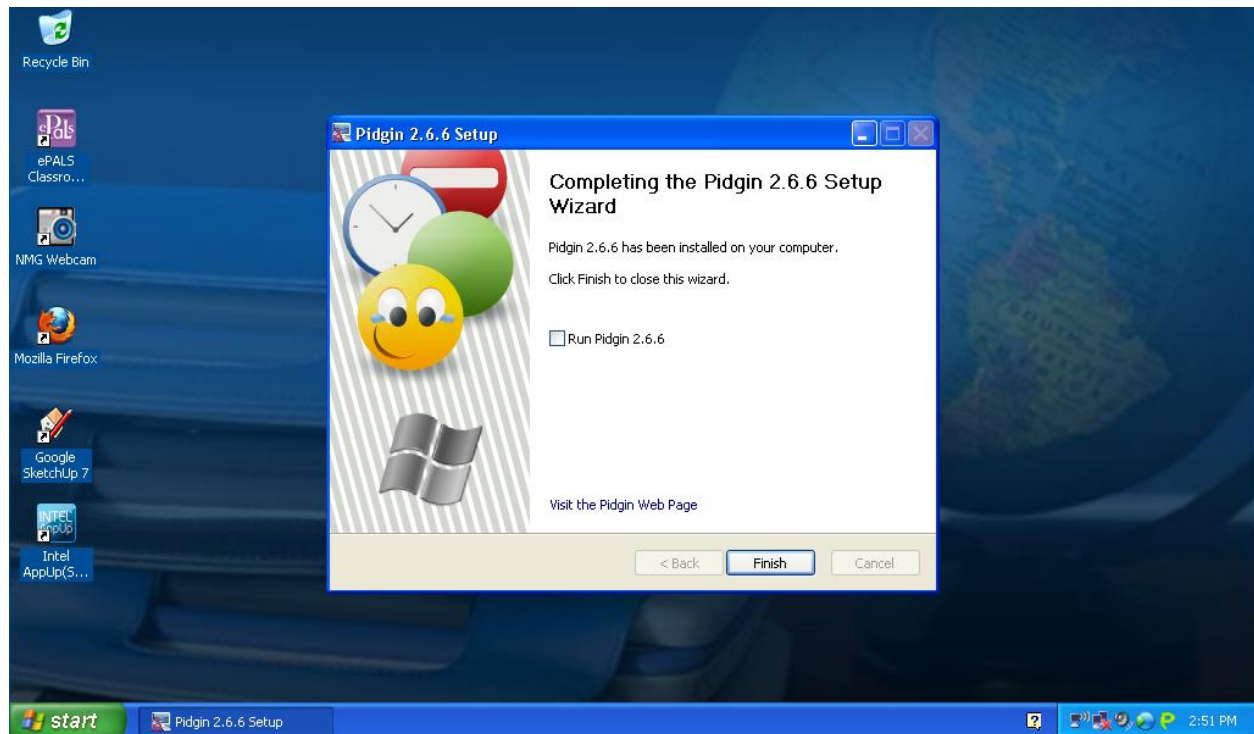
You will then be taken through a series of screens for the install, continue to click "Next".



Once you arrive at the install screen, click "Install". You do not need to change the Install Location.



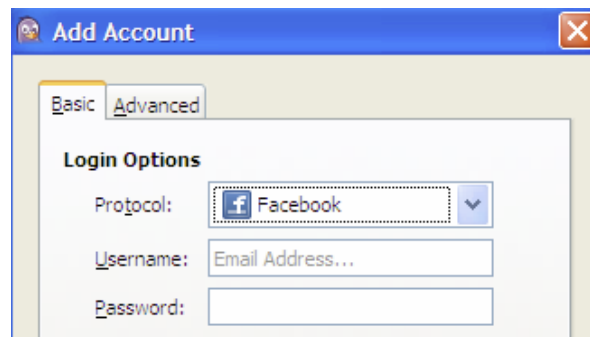
When the installation is complete, you will see this screen. Check the box that says "Run Pidgin" and click "Finish" at the bottom.



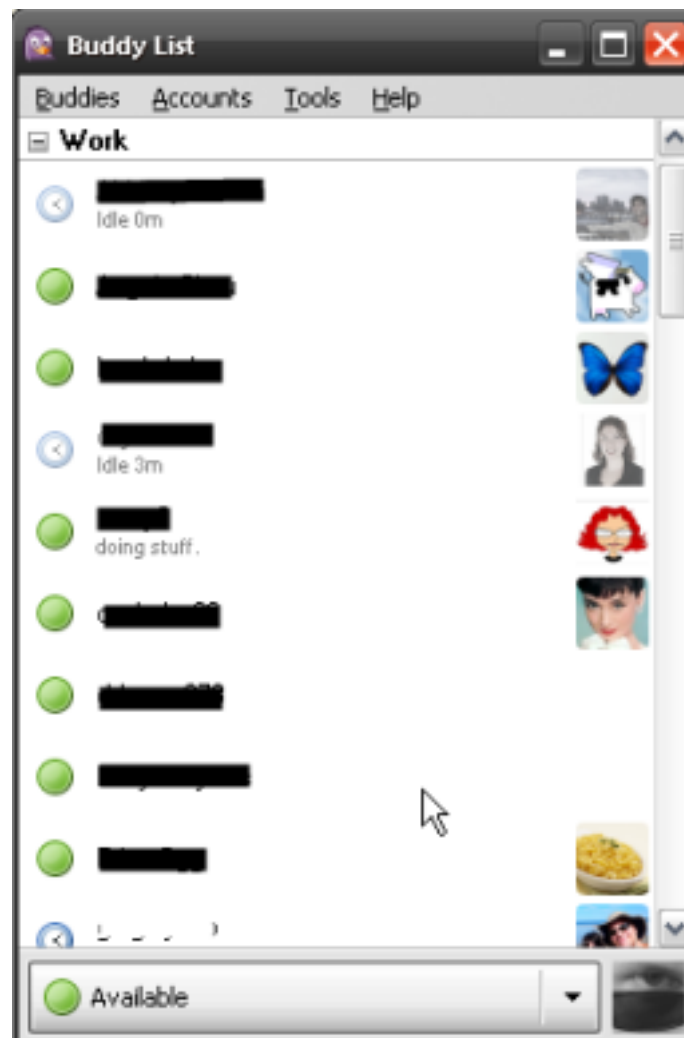
You will then get the prompt to Add accounts to pidgin. Since Pidgin collects multiple Instant Messenger accounts, and displays all the "Buddy Lists" in one, you can Add as many as you like. Click the "Add" button at the bottom to get started.



You will be prompted with this “Add Account” screen. From the top drop-down menu, choose your desired Instant Messaging service, then fill in your Username and Password. When finished, click “Add”.



Your account's Buddy List will then appear, populated with all your friends!



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