

# Communication

Communicating in Second Life is much like chatting on an instant messenger program. There are two forms of communication that you can use: *local chat* and *private IM chat*.

## How to Communicate in the Local Chat

Public communication is referred to as local chat. You can speak to any resident that is around your general area by **SAYING** your message or you can speak to the entire island by **SHOUTING** your message.

### STEP 1:

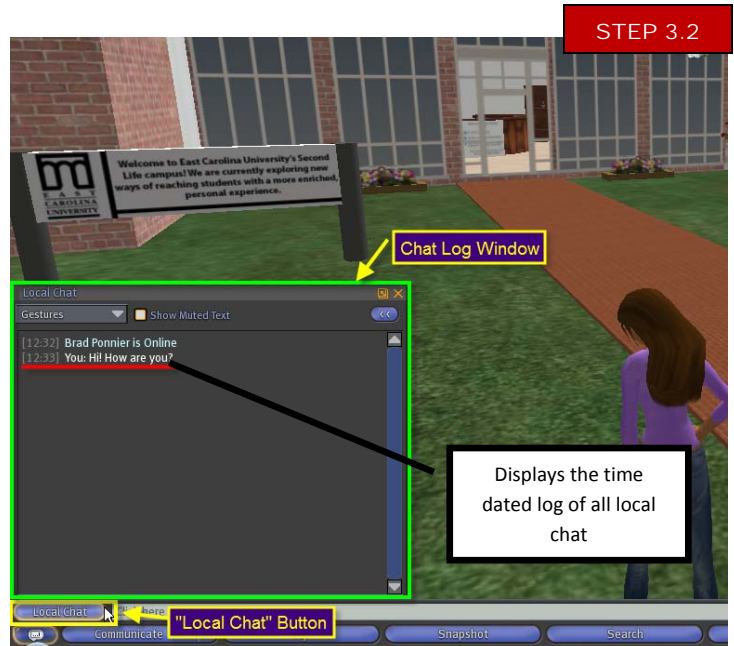
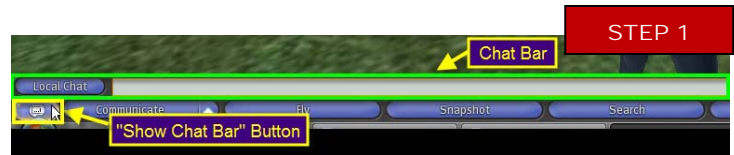
Click the “Show Chat Bar” button to toggle the local chat box.

### STEP 2:

Click on the white space of the local chat box then enter your text and click the “Say” button (or press ENTER).

### STEP 3:

Once you say something it will appear on the lower right hand corner of your screen but it will fade away after a few seconds (Figure 3.1). If you missed part of the conversation you may click on the “Local Chat” button to open the window and view a log of all public (local) chat.



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## How to Communicate Using the Private IM Chat

The private chat functions both as an instant messenger and as a message center for you and your friends. If the resident you are trying to contact is not online, then Second Life will save the message until the next time that resident logs on.

### STEP 1:

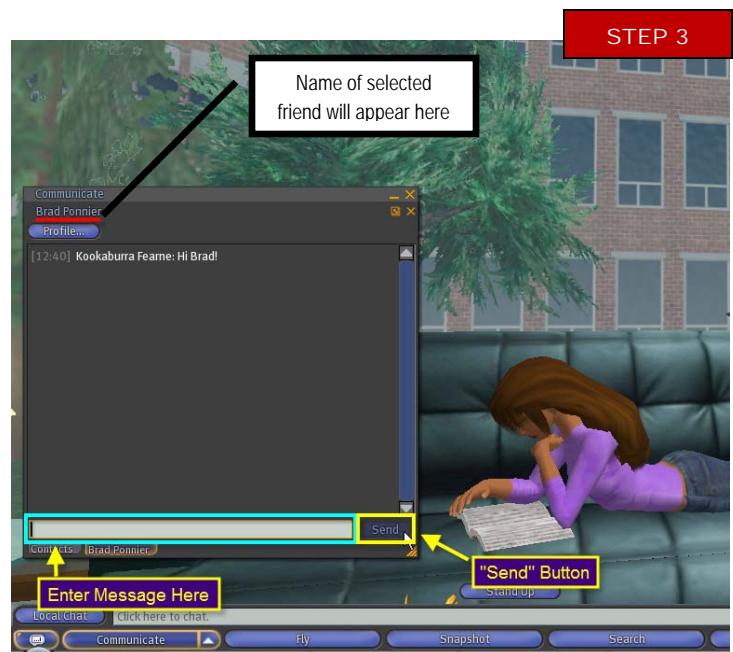
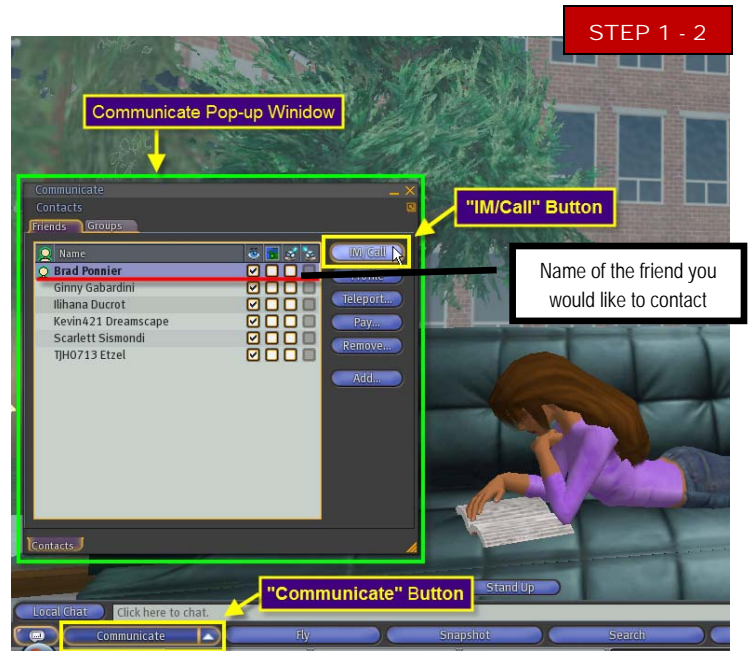
Click on the “Communicate” button in the bottom right corner of your screen. A pop-up communicate window will appear.

### STEP 2:

In the communicate window, click on the name of the friend that you would like to contact and then click the “IM/Call” button. This will open a new screen in your communicate window. At the top of the screen will be the name of the resident you selected in the previous step.

### STEP 3:

Enter your message in the white box at the bottom of the communicate window and click the “Send” button.



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**NOTE:** In addition to sending IMs to individual residents you can also IM a whole **group** at one time. To do this, return to STEP 2 but instead of highlighting a resident on your Friends list go to the “Groups” Tab in your Communicate window. Once that tab is displayed you can select a group name, just as you would a friend’s name, and click the “IM/Call” button.

