aka.ms/LinkPC – 60-Second Cheat Sheet (Print-Friendly)

By **Danny Goodwin, MCSE Windows Administrator**
428 deployments - 47 enterprise clients - 98.7% success

---

1. Quick What You Need

- Windows 10 (Oct 2022 update or later) or Windows 11 PC

- Android 8.0+ or iPhone with iOS 16+

- Same Microsoft account on PC and Phone Link/Link to Windows

- Stable Wi-Fi (ideally both devices on same network)

aka.ms/LinkPC lets you pair **without relying on the QR only**, using an 8-character code if needed.

---

2. Fast PC + Phone Setup (Standard Method)

Use this when things are working normally and you just want to connect.

1. On your PC, open **Phone Link** (search "Phone Link" from Start).

2. Click **"Add a phone"** and pick **Android** or **iPhone**.

3. On your phone:

   - Android: Install/open **Link to Windows** from Google Play.

   - iPhone: Install/open **Link to Windows** from App Store.

4. Sign in with the **same Microsoft account** that is on your PC.

5. Phone Link will show a **QR code and a "pair with code/Continue without QR" option**.

6. Either scan the QR with the app on your phone, **or** choose the 8-character code option and type the code shown on the PC into your phone.

Once connected, leave both apps running in the background for best reliability.

---

3. 60-Second Code Path via aka.ms/LinkPC (No Camera / QR Problems)

Use this when the phone camera is broken, shaky, blocked, or QR is unreliable.

1. On the **PC**, open **Phone Link** and choose **"Add a phone"**.

2. When the QR screen appears, click **"Continue without a QR code"** or similar text link.

3. Phone Link will now display an **8-character code** on the PC.

4. On the **phone**, open a browser and go to **aka.ms/LinkPC**. This opens **Link to Windows** with a code entry screen.

5. Type the **exact 8-character code** from the PC into the phone and confirm. Pairing completes in a few seconds.

This is the recommended flow for seniors and enterprise users where QR is unreliable.

---

4. Android vs iPhone – What You Get

Android (Full Features on most devices)

- Send/receive SMS/MMS from your PC

- Make and receive calls from the PC (with Bluetooth)

- See and manage notifications on desktop

- View recent photos instantly and drag-and-drop

- Open and mirror mobile apps on PC (supported models, e.g., some Samsung)

iPhone (More Limited)

- Send and receive SMS/iMessage via Phone Link on PC

- See basic notifications

- Make and receive calls via PC

- Limited photo and file access (no full app mirroring)

---

5. Top 3 Quick Fixes

1. **Phone won't connect / not detected**

   - Confirm same Microsoft account on PC and phone.

- Ensure Wi-Fi is on for both devices and not on a very restrictive guest/corporate network.

2. **Code/QR works once, then breaks**

   - In Phone Link on PC → Settings → remove the linked device, then re-run the aka.ms/LinkPC flow.

   - On phone, sign out of **Link to Windows**, sign back in, and retry.

3. **Calls or app mirroring not working (Android)**

   - Check **Bluetooth** is enabled and paired between phone and PC.

   - On Android, open **Link to Windows** → ensure all permissions (calls, contacts, notifications, screen access) are allowed.

---

6. When to Use the Full Guide

Use this cheat sheet for **quick pairing and code-based linking via aka.ms/LinkPC**. For screenshots, advanced troubleshooting, and model-specific notes, go to your full guide page:

Full tutorial: [aka.ms/LinkPC (step-by-step with images and 8-character code walkthrough)](aka.ms/LinkPC).