

	Mastodon	Twitter
Posting		
Post length	500 characters (some servers allow longer posts)	280 characters
ALT text length	1,500 characters	1,000 characters
Editing posts	Yes (and you get a notification if a post you've liked/reposted ever gets edited)	No (unless you pay for Twitter, and even then, there are limitations)
Delete & redraft	Yes	No
Polls	Four poll options, max 50 characters each (some servers allow more options and more characters per option). Also multiple choice polls.	Four poll options, max 25 characters each. No multiple choice polls.
Posting a thread in one go	No, you have to add each post to the thread one by one, by replying to the previous post. (Some apps might let you write the whole thread first and then post it in one go.)	Yes
Quote posts	No, but some apps imitate this feature, but the quote post is not connected to the original post the same way it's done on Twitter.	Yes
Scheduled posts	Not directly, but some apps let you do this and there's also a 3rd party tool you can use.	Yes
Post visibility levels	Four levels, adjustable for each post individually	Your account is either private or public, and the visibility of your posts depends on that setting.
Restricting who can reply to your (public) post	No	Yes
Profile		
Display name length	30 characters	50 characters
Bio length	500 characters (some servers allow longer bios)	160 characters
Metadata	Four slots for metadata, fully customisable	Location and Website
Number of posts you can pin to your profile	5	1
Option to hide your follower/following lists	Yes	No
Option to attach private notes to other people's profiles	Yes	No
Communication & Community		
Circle posts	No	Yes
Direct messages	Yes, but not with a chat interface (it's just posts with limited visibility to "Mentioned People Only")	Yes
Group chats	No	Yes
Option to leave a conversation where you are mentioned	No (but you can mute the conversation)	Yes
Group posting	Yes, when using a group account to relay the posts	No
Timeline		
Timeline order	Chronological	Algorithmic
Ad-free	Yes	No
Can posts get suppressed?	No. You can use several tags in your posts, you can mention words without the need to censor them because of the fear that they'd be suppressed, you can put links to the first post of your thread etc.	Yes. Putting links, too many tags or certain words to your tweets might make Twitter algorithm to suppress your tweet.
Controlling the content you (and others) see		
Content warnings	Built-in feature that automatically hides the actual content of your post, and only shows the warnings on the timeline.	No built-in feature. Depends on other users muting the words that are used as Content Warnings.
Filters	Yes	No
Muting words	Yes (via Filters)	Yes, but max 200 words/phrases
Muting accounts	Yes, and it's also possible to set a time limit for how long the muting is in effect.	Yes, but no option to limit how long the account stays muted.
Does muting work?	Yes, immediately	Not always
General things related to using the platform		
App	Several customisable 3rd party apps to choose from.	Only the official app, since the 3rd party apps don't work anymore.
Rules of the platform	A lot depends on the server that hosts your account.	Rules are the same for Twitter users.
Level of moderation	Depends on the server that hosts your account, but generally quite good. The servers that get promoted on the official <i>Join Mastodon</i> website have all committed to having active moderation against racism, sexism, homophobia and transphobia.	Non-existent
Option to search for posts that use specific words	No, only tags in Public posts are searchable (Mastodon deliberately does not allow searching for arbitrary strings in the entire database).	Yes
Server-specific emojis	Yes	No
Option to connect and interact with accounts on different platforms	Yes, a Mastodon account can interact with accounts on other Fediverse platforms; there are alternatives for Instagram (PixelFed), YouTube (PeerTube), Reddit (Lemmy), Facebook (Friendica) etc.	No
Owned by an unstable billionaire with the emotional maturity of a toddler	No	Yes