

With so much communicating happening on social media, it is important to know how to be safe online. Facebook has a section of their website that provides information to teens, parents and educators about using Facebook, content and safety. Here is some of their information, in brief.

Posting

Only post content that you would be comfortable with your parents, grandparents, teachers and employers being able to see. Even if your employer is not one of your friends, they could still see your posts, through public sharing, or through someone who has access to what you post.

What is Public?

When you choose to share something with the public, it is considered public information. If other people share info about you, even if it's something you shared with them but did not make public, they can choose to make it public. Also when you comment on other people's public posts, your comment is



Facebook Safety

Facebook.com/safety

public as well. Anything you share in public groups is also public. Information you post can show up on search engines.

Authentic Identity

Facebook requires that users be a minimum of 13 years of age. When you join Facebook, you agree to terms that include using your authentic name and identity. You may not publish personal information of others without their consent.

Imposters

If someone created an account pretending to be you, you can report it whether or not you have a Facebook page yourself.

Blocking

You can block someone to unfriend them and prevent them from starting conversations with you or seeing things you post. People you block can no longer tag you, invite you to events or groups or add you as a friend. Blocking is reciprocal - you also won't be able to see things they post or start conversations with them. People are not notified that you've blocked them.

Unfollowing

When you unfollow someone, you won't see their posts in your news feed, but you'll still be friends with them.

Unfriending

You can unfriend someone without them knowing. If you choose to unfriend someone, Facebook won't notify the person but you'll be removed from that person's friends list. If you want to be friends with this person again, you'll need to send a new friend request.

Reporting

Facebook includes a link for reporting abuse, bullying, harassment and other issues. If you report something, you have the option to check the status of your report from your Support Inbox, which only you can see.

If you want more information on Facebook safety tips and their terms and conditions, visit: www.facebook.com/safety. There are simple explanations for safety features to make your user experience a positive one.

ASK THE EXPERT:

Facebook
www.facebook.com/safety

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