

CAUTION

TIPS FOR STAYING SAFE ON SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES



Think about how different sites work before deciding to join a site. Some sites will allow only a defined community of users to access posted content; others allow anyone and everyone to view postings.



Be cautious about how much personal information you provide on social networking sites like Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter.



Keep your information to yourself. Don't post your full name, Social Security Number, address, phone number, or bank and credit card account numbers. Be cautious about posting information that could be used to identify you or locate you offline.



Post only information that you are comfortable with others seeing — and knowing — about you. Many people can see your page, including your parents, your teachers, the police, or the job you might want to apply for in four years.



Remember that once you post information online, you can't take it back. Even if you delete the information from a site, older versions exist on other people's computers.



Use strong passwords- Protect your account with passwords that cannot easily be guessed.



Use and maintain anti-virus software. Anti-virus software recognizes most known viruses and protects your computer against them, so you may be able to detect and remove the virus before it can do any damage.



Check that the computer that you sign in from doesn't store your email address and password. It seems simple but often it's easy to accidentally choose it to 'remember you'.



To date, there is no Facebook application that allows you to see who has been viewing your page – never follow any link that promises this functionality.



Don't respond to deals that sound too good to be true, lotteries you didn't enter, or other scams.

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