



IT@Intel Technology Tips

Intel Information Technology

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Intel IT creates and publishes articles for Intel employees to educate them on a variety of information technology subjects. Our goal is to help them improve productivity, take advantage of new IT services and raise awareness on other IT topics of interest. We've modified these articles from their original version for sharing with external audiences.

How to Protect your Tweens and Teens on Social Networks

Do your kids understand how to protect their privacy online?

Most parents know it's hard to get kids to share. But when it comes to social networking, do your kids share too much?

You can help your teen better protect their privacy on social networking sites by following these 10 tips.

1. **Communicate.** Talk, chat, and e-mail with your teen about privacy.
2. **Enter their world.** Join the social networks that your teen uses. It's the best way to educate yourself so that you can protect your kids.
3. **Use and encourage privacy controls.** Does your teen know what they can and can't control on a specific site? Help them establish boundaries.
4. **"Friend" or "follow" your teen.** Forming a direct digital connection with your teen on social networks encourages them to be conscious of privacy issues.
5. **Don't lurk.** The fastest way to have your teen hide info from you or "unfriend" you online is to invade their digital space.
6. **Remind them:** the Internet never forgets.
7. **Discourage over-posting.** Your teen doesn't have to tell everything to the whole world. Discourage your teen from sharing physical addresses, phone numbers, or any information about their location.
8. **Teach them to resist over-friending and to never friend strangers.** By allowing a stranger to friend or follow them on a social networking site, teens give these people access to their personal information and open a direct – and often confidential – line of communication.
9. **The golden rule applies to privacy.** Your teen wouldn't want someone to upload an embarrassing or compromising photo of them online so they should respect the privacy rights of others on social networks as they would their own.
10. **Check the social networking Web site your teen uses for sound privacy practices.** Look at the Web site's privacy policy: What promises do they make about protecting your teen's personal information and how will they use that information

Where to go for more materials

The next Data Privacy Day is January 28, 2012. This global effort teaches you and your children the importance of protecting personal information. Get updated educational materials and online resources by visiting the [Data Privacy Day 2012 Web site](#).

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