

Access

The best way for families to agree on ground rules is to create a contract that all parties must sign. Who your child is allowed to call? How many minutes is she allowed to use each month? Is your child permitted to text? How many texts per day/week/month? What apps is she allowed to download and use? Are there apps that are strictly off-limits?

Digital Footprint

Many kids don't seem to understand the permanence of the online world. Be sure that your child is aware that what happens in cyberspace stays in cyberspace -- forever! Make a firm smartphone rule that your child should never post a photo or message that she wouldn't want to have "everyone" view. Discuss privacy risks, personal safety risks, privacy and reputation risks, along with home and property.

Apps

Twitter; Facebook; Instagram; Snapchat; Kik; Vine; Wanelo; Pheed; YouTube, FaceTime, What'sApp, Skype, G+, Tumblr, and many, many more.

Privacy

Show your child how to set up the privacy features offered by social networking apps. Make sure that these settings protect your child from allowing strangers access to their profiles. Teach your child how to "block" comments and contacts by peers who have a history of engaging in cruel online behavior.

Tips

- [Children's Online Privacy: A Resource Guide for Parents](#) by Privacy Rights Clearinghouse
- [FTC's Guidance on Privacy](#)
- Common Sense Media offers [Tips for Protecting Personal Privacy Online](#).
- [Facebook for parents](#) by Common Sense Media teaches parents about the popular social networking site.
- [Parent's Guide to Protecting Kids' Privacy Online](#) offered by Common Sense Media.
- Reputation.com's [Reputation Watch](#) offers information about privacy and your reputation.
- [Safety Web](#) offers helpful and [free online parenting resources](#) and articles related to privacy and security online.
- [Tips for Parents: Who's That Girl? Image and Social Media](#), Girl Scout Institute.