

Learn It

Internet Safety Tips for Kids



We understand that online safety is a top priority for parents who are providing internet access to younger children and teens alike. Safe search resources for the internet should not replace proper parental or teacher supervision. Here are few tips to encourage internet safety when surfing the world wide web whether at home or in school.

Internet Safety Tips for Kids

- Have an open conversation with your kids about safe browsing and computer use. With freedom comes responsibility.
- Do not replace parental supervision of computer use at home with just a search engine filter. No search filtering software or tool is perfect.
- A good rule of thumb is to not allow internet use when a child is home alone without proper supervision.
- Educate yourself on social media safety and have open discussions with teens about present dangers and long term effects of inappropriate conduct, including [posting pictures online](#).
- Keep your computer in an open area. If your computer is in a home office, make a rule that doors are always left open when online.
- It's not a good idea to allow computers or laptops in your kids bedrooms, even while using a free internet filter, unless they are close to the main area of the house such as the kitchen or living room with doors left open.
- Educate yourself on how to stay safe when using social media: Read about Social Media Safety.
- Do not allow internet use after you've gone to bed at night no matter how good your computer security software is or how confident you are in kids search engines.

- Consider installing parental control software to give you completed control over how kids access the internet.
- If your child is searching for videos on YouTube, learn how you can activate [YouTube parental controls](#).
- Do not allow file sharing programs to be installed on your computer. Only use safe and secure music download programs from trusted sources on the internet.

Internet Safety Tips – What Kids Can Do!

- Do not give out personal information about yourself online without your parent's permission. This includes your name, where you live or your telephone number.
- Never to agree to meet someone that you have met online. If you do not know the person in 'real life', tell your parents about anyone this is asking to meet you.
- Talk to your parents first about pictures you want to post online, whether they be of yourself or your friends and family members.
- Do not respond to messages you receive that are mean or speaking meanly about others. Tell your parents about these messages.
- Do not give out any of your passwords to friends or anyone you meet online.
- Check with your parents first before downloading or installing any software on your computer.
- Ensure privacy settings on activated on all of social media websites you use.
- Always be kind of others online. Do not do anything that may hurt others including joining in conversations discussing other people's problems.
- Be careful about discussing details about your own personal problems with your friends online. It is better to speak to them in person. Tell your parents or teacher if you are struggling with something.
- Remember that the rules for online safety also apply to texting on your phone.
- Agree to computer rules set up by your parents, teachers or guardians. With freedom and trust comes the expectation that you will act responsibly.

