Social Networks - Do's and Don'ts

- Only establish and maintain connections with people you know and trust. Review your connections often.
- Assume that ANYONE can see any information about your activities, personal life, or professional life that you post and share.
- Ensure that your family takes similar precautions with their accounts; their privacy and sharing settings can expose your personal data.
- Avoid posting or tagging images of you or your family that clearly show your face. Select pictures taken at a distance, at an angle, or otherwise concealed. **Never post Smartphone photos and don't** use your face as a profile photo, instead, use cartoons or avatars.
- Use secure browser settings when possible and monitor your browsing history to ensure that you recognize all access points.

Managing your Twitter Account

Twitter is a social networking and microblogging site whose users send and read text-based posts online. The site surged to worldwide popularity with +300 million active users as of 2011, generating 300 million tweets and 1.6 billion search queries daily.

**Hashtags (#topic)** are used to mark a keyword or topic in a Tweet. Posts with hashtag are categorized by topics in the Twitter search engine. Hashtagged words that become popular become Trending Topics (ex. #jan25, #egypt, #sxsw).

**Mentions (@username)** are used to tag a user in a Twitter update. When a public user mentions a private Twitter account, the link to the private account profile becomes public.

Profile Settings

Apply the **Profile** settings shown below to ensure that your information is visible only to people of your choosing.

**Twitter Best Practices**

- Avoid using hashtags (#) in updates to avoid being indexed and associated with a topic by Twitter Search.
- **Tweet responsibly.** Do not provide personal details regarding your whereabouts and activities in your post.
- Do NOT upload links to personal photos or websites on Twitter.
- Do NOT allow Twitter to use your location on mobile devices.
- Change your Twitter **username** periodically to limit account exposure.
Apply the **Account** settings shown below to ensure that your information is shared in a limited fashion.

### Deactivating / Delete Your Twitter Account

To deactivate your account, go to **Settings** and select **Account** page. At the bottom of the page, click “**Deactivate my account**.” After deactivation, the user can reactivate the account within 30 days. After 30 days, the account is permanently deleted.

### Notification & Application Settings

Maintain a small digital footprint by minimizing the number of notifications. Revoke access to unnecessary third party applications.

### Useful Links

- A Parent’s Guide to Internet Safety
- Wired Kids
- Microsoft Safety & Security
- OnGuard Online

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**Twitter**

**Smart Card**

Twitter 121511_1631 Account

**Settings**

Apply the **Account** settings shown below to ensure that your information is shared in a limited fashion.

**JasonSmith7825’s settings**

- **Name:** Jason Smith
- **Username:** JasonSmith7825
- **Email:** jason.smith7825@yahoo.com

**Deactivate my account**

Click to delete all location data associated with your account

**Deactivate my account**

Click to delete all location data associated with your account

**DO NOT connect your phone**

**Change every ~ 6 months**

**Uncheck**

**Notifications**

- **Direct message (DM) is never visible to the public**
- **Private tweets will become visible to the web when retweeted (RT) by a user with public account**

**Applications**

- **Twitter for Android**
- **Samsung Mobile**

**Useful Links**

- www.fbi.gov/stats-services/publications/parent-guide
- www.wiredkids.org/
- www.microsoft.com/security/online-privacy/social-networking.aspx
- www.onguardonline.gov/topics/social-networking-sites.aspx