

“Internet Safety”



Basic Safety Rules to Remember:

- Follow the rules your parents set
- Never trade personal photographs in the mail or scanned photographs over the Internet.
- Never reveal personal information, such as address, phone number, or school name or location. Use only a screen name. Never agree to meet anyone from a chat room in person.
- Never respond to a threatening email or message.
- Always tell a parent about any communication or conversation that was scary or uncomfortable.
- Tell your parents about the people you meet online, just like you tell them about the friends you make at school.
- Get your parents’ permission before filling out forms for any contests, free stuff or online services. It’s like giving your information to strangers on the street and you never know who will see it.
- If you use information you find on the Internet for school, make sure you check first to see if it is true, and credit it properly. It may not seem like a big deal, but using someone else’s work without crediting them is plagiarism and is a crime.
- Never buy something online or download anything without first obtaining your parents’ permission.
- Never gossip or say anything about anyone that might hurt them or get them in trouble.
- Remember that what you do on the Internet cannot be erased. Any photos you post or anything you say is on record for years to come, for anyone to look at. Don’t put up anything that you wouldn’t want the whole world – including your mother – to see.



Surfing

- Surfing the Internet is a great way to learn new things and stay in touch with friends, but it can also be dangerous. Following these basic Internet rules can help you stay safe and still have fun online:

- The computer should be in a high-traffic area, such as the living room, rather than a bedroom.
- Choose a password that is difficult for others to guess, but easy for you to remember. Do not reveal it to anyone, even to your best friends.



Make Facebook Safer

- Facebook is only as safe as you are sensible. **Don’t** add people as “friends” if you don’t know them!
- You can add pictures but be smart about it and ensure that only **YOUR** friends can see them.
- Personal information, profile and contact information – Be selective! **Don’t** allow people to see this information - at all. This includes your date of birth, work place/home address, email address, phone number, school and anything else that makes it easy for someone to find you.
- Under where it says "Public Search Listing" make sure the box is **unchecked**. These settings will ensure that only people on your friend list will be able to find you in a search.



Internet Safety Quiz

1) According to the Media Awareness Network, what percentage of Canadian kids and teens have met people they've met online in person?

- A. 15%
- B. 25%
- C. 53%
- D. 6%

Answer: A. 15% of the kids surveyed had real-life meetings with people they met on the internet.

2) In chat rooms, nobody can identify you unless you want them to?

- True
- False

Answer: False. There are many ways that people can be tracked on the internet - so watch out!

3) Hacking into websites is illegal.

- True
- False

Answer: True. Lots of people think that hacking into websites is harmless, but in the eyes of the law, breaking into someone's Web page is just the same as breaking into someone's home.

4) You can say anything you want online - so long as it's on your personal Web page?

- True
- False

Answer: False. Good netizens know that if you can't say it in the real world, then you can't say it on the internet.

5) Which of the following would make the best password?

- A. Your pets name
- B. A combination of numbers, symbols and letters
- C. Your mother's maiden name
- D. Your favourite colour

Answer: B. It's tricky to remember but almost impossible for anyone to figure out.

6) If a website has a privacy policy, it means that your personal information is safe with them.

- True
- False

Answer: False. The only way that you can decide if a Website protects your personal information is by reading its Privacy Policy. Some sites are better than others so it pays to check this out before telling them about yourself.

7) Which of these statements about cookies is true?

- A. Cookies can read your email address
- B. Cookies can get data and personal information from the hard-drive of your computer
- C. Computer viruses can be sent in cookies
- D. Cookies can track which other sites you visit after you leave a particular site, and even what ads you click on

Answer: D. Those little cookies are meant to track people, and the more information that a cookie collects about where you surf, the more valuable that cookie becomes.

8) What type of information are Canadian teens most likely to give out over the internet to win a contest or prize?

- A. Their names
- B. Their email address
- C. Their home address
- D. Their age and gender



Answer: D. Nearly 7 out of 10 kids will submit their ages, and 8 out of 10 kids will submit their gender. It sounds harmless but when these details are combined with other information, like your hobbies and interests, they can go a long way in helping marketers reach kids and teens on the internet.

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