

6 Tips to stay safe on the Internet

The internet can be great for help with schoolwork, watching videos, playing games, and chatting with friends.

But, there are some serious risks too!

Remember

- 1 Never give out personal information.** Do not give out your address, phone number, parents' information or the name of your school.
- 2 Don't answer messages that make you uncomfortable** and make sure to report inappropriate or harassing messages to the police.
- 3 Be careful with the pictures you share and what you say.** Once something is on to the internet it is out there forever.
- 4 Never agree to meet up with someone you have met online.** You can never guarantee the person you are talking with online is actually who they say they are.
- 5 Passwords – keep them safe, change them, and make them hard to guess!** This will reduce the chance of someone breaking in to your accounts.
- 6 Edit your privacy settings** on social networking sites (such as Facebook and Twitter). Make sure only your friends can see your online activity.

(Toronto Police, <http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/crimeprevention/internet.php>)

What if someone creeps me out online?

If someone makes you feel uncomfortable while online, make sure that you:



Save the message/photo/video as evidence.



Block them from contacting you.



Tell someone you trust about the situation.

Report to Police if you are being harassed, threatened, or lured.

(Online Profile Checklist, Deal.org, <http://deal.org/the-knowzone/internet-safety/online-profile-checklist/>)



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