

# Digital footprint

How to be safe online.

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# Think, Reflect, Respond

- After doing a quick 10 minute google search about myself thankfully, I was online safe enough to not find anything. Because when I make social media accounts, I know not to put my real name on them. And I don't generally use social media a lot but when I do, I also make sure not to post anything related to me that could give away person information about me. Now having your real name in your account user nickname may not be the worst thing you could do or having your name somewhere on your page is not horrible, but I don't feel safe sharing that info because again there are people out there that want to do horrible things so don't give them what they need "Give them the tip of the rope and they will strangle you with it" is a saying I like for this case. And if you do have your name, do not post pictures that could give away your location or basically then you're just an easy target.

# How might your digital footprint affect your daily life?

- It could ruin job opportunities because as an employer if you went to visit your employees page and found out that they have done bad stuff in the past you wouldn't want to hire them things such as discrimination, bullying, anything against the law, finding out they have addictions so certain things etc. All that is just not a very good imprint.
- It could also ruin a persons social life whether it be school or outside of it things being leaked or things that aren't very welcomed socially if posted can result in various different reactions from the people surrounding. Or if parents find out it could get them in quite a bit of trouble.

# Why is it important to be aware of one's digital footprint?

- Just like being respectful in person to other people you also must be respectful digitally don't say anything you wouldn't say to someone in person or don't post anything you wouldn't want anyone seeing. Because it can and will be seen by anyone if not careful where you post it so therefore if what you posted is not appropriate then it could end up in many ways such as, getting personal information such as address or criminal history if available, getting marked as a possible future victim by some people, or even in worst case scenario even getting killed.
- It is important to be aware of one's digital footprint so then you could also set a good example for others online. Such as younger people on the internet.

# Safety: How can I be safe online?

- Tips to being safe online could be the following. Not sharing passcodes with anyone. Remember that the only thing keeping other people from posting stuff under your name is your account passcode, so please do not share your account login info with anyone unless you know they can be trusted with such information even in cases like these it is better to not share it.

If affordable or if free one is available using a Vpn also helps protect your IP address against hackers and such things especially pop-up ads on unfamiliar sites.

Also don't post pictures where address or even something that could give away the area you live in on the internet.

Don't post personal stuff such as law cases, any legal documents, credit/debit card info. All the examples stated could be stolen and could lead to identity theft which is a serious crime and not very fun to deal with.

# Digital permanence.

- Digital permanence is the idea that nothing you post online will ever be truly erased it can always be found somewhere like with someone else if they have saved it when it was still uploaded or just by the servers belonging to the app/website it was posted to.

Think about it this way when you write something on a piece of paper make it a paper airplane and throw it in a canyon then just because you or a lot of others can't see it doesn't mean that it is permanently gone it just means that it is out of sight of the general society however those who decide to dig deep into the canyon or the workers who run the canyon can still find it and see what it says after a bit of searching. That is almost how cookies work they are not quite paper airplanes, but they are still little things with information of what you did and when you did it on them that can easily be accessed by the people who run the servers or in worst case scenarios hackers if your cookies for said site aren't well secured by the site owners.

# Citations

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