



safe on social

Top Safety Tips for Snap Chat



www.safeonsocial.com

Top Safety Tips for Snap Chat - <https://www.snap.com/en-US/safety/safety-center>

1. Abide by the age restrictions.

This app is not suitable for use for any child still in Primary school. The age recommendations the app provides are 13+. Realistically this app provides content that is unsuitable for children under 16+.

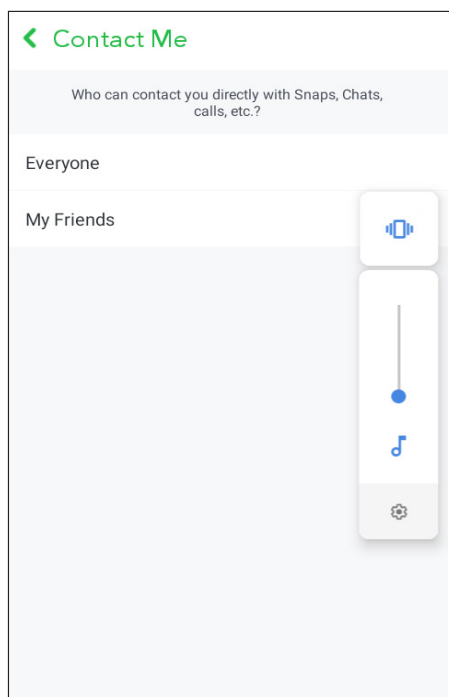
Check your child's phone. If they have downloaded this app without your consent request they delete it.

If you believe to the contrary that this app is suitable for your younger child, consider supervising them closely while they use it. Be present when they open their Snaps.

2. Use the available settings to allow only messages from friends.

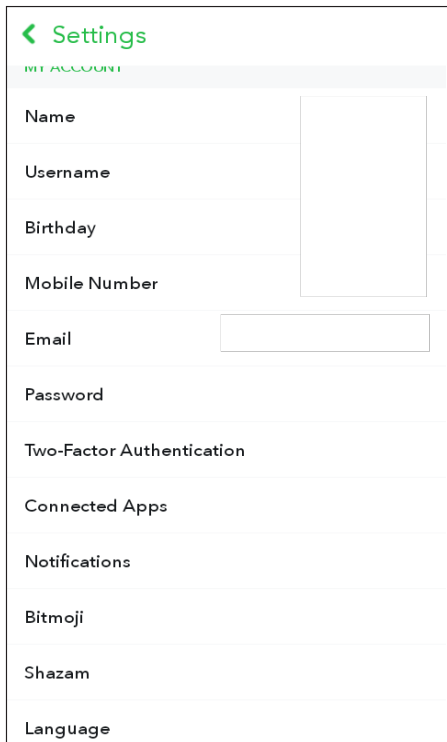
Only the accounts that have been added to your friend list will be able to contact you through Snapchat. And this includes photo snaps, video and text chats.

Settings – use Contact me under the Who can option and choose “My friends”



3. Secure and protect your account.

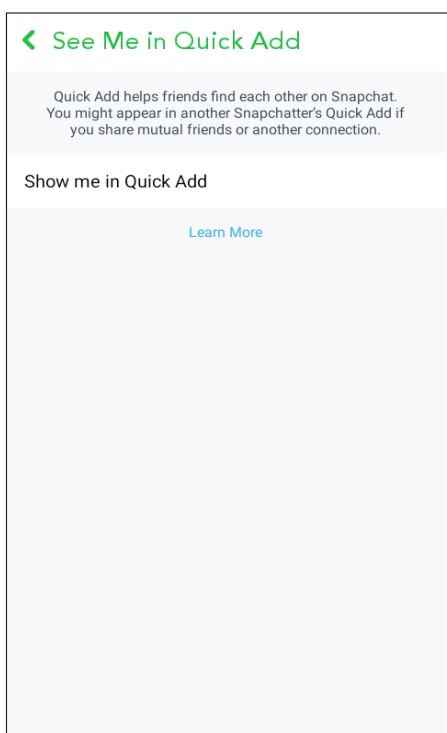
Use strong passwords. A combination of upper and lowercase letters plus symbols will make it difficult for your account to be accessed by others. To add an additional level of security, use the option for two factor identification. A verification code will be sent to your mobile to access your Snap account.



The screenshot shows the 'Settings' page with a green back arrow and the title 'Settings'. Below the title is a section labeled 'MY ACCOUNT'. The settings listed are: Name, Username, Birthday, Mobile Number, Email, Password, Two-Factor Authentication, Connected Apps, Notifications, Bitmoji, Shazam, and Language. Each setting has a corresponding input field or toggle switch.

4. Remove yourself from the Quick Ad feature.

This essentially an advertising service for your profile. You will appear in the accounts of mutual friends, and looser connections as a person to add. This may be turned off.

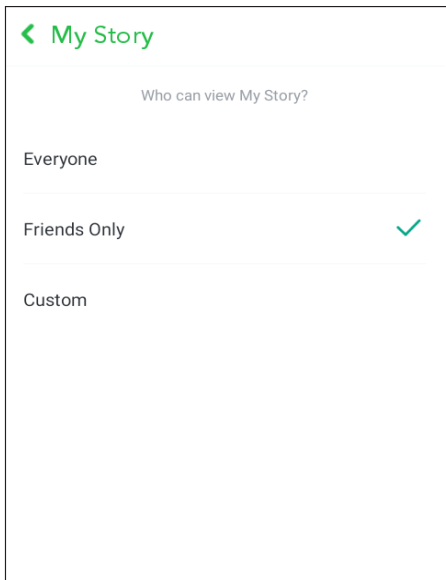


The screenshot shows the 'See Me in Quick Add' settings page. At the top is a green back arrow and the title 'See Me in Quick Add'. Below the title is a light gray box containing the text: 'Quick Add helps friends find each other on Snapchat. You might appear in another Snapchatter's Quick Add if you share mutual friends or another connection.' Below this box is a toggle switch labeled 'Show me in Quick Add'. At the bottom of the page is a blue link that says 'Learn More'.

5. Select who you wish to allow to view your stories

You may use your settings to just allow your friends to see your stories. Some content you may wish to limit to a specific groups of friends. You may do this by creating a custom group of friends to share your stories with.

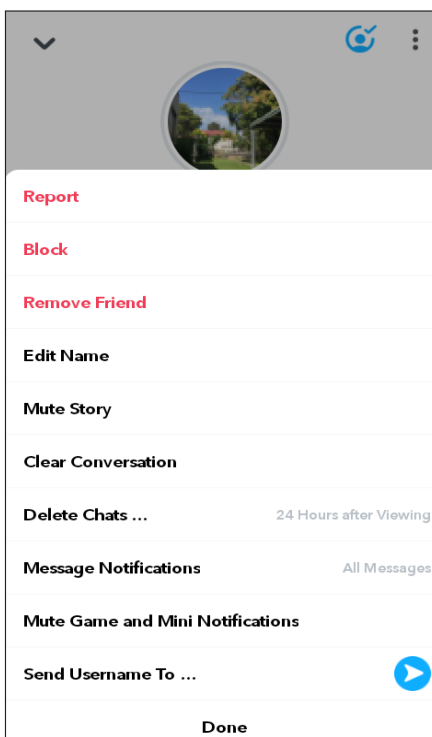
Settings - Who Can – View My Stories – Everyone/My friends/Custom



6. Block unwelcome individuals who try to add you to their account.

Keep your Snap friends limited to individuals you have met personally. If a stranger add you to their account, consider blocking them. This will ensure your content is only available to friends.

Go to the individual's profile by hitting their profile picture or emoji – tap the three dots at the top of right-hand corner , the drop-down menu that results will offer a number of choices including reporting the account, blocking the account holder or remove them as friends.



7. Pay attention to Screen shot Notifications. Not all content disappears.

Snapchat will notify you when someone takes a screenshot of your snaps.

This may be something you are uncomfortable with, and it may affect how you view that particular friend. Notifications will arrive via in the app itself , but also through instant phone notifications if you have these enabled on your phone.

8. Do NOT share your user name freely.

It is fairly common for teens to include additional social media addresses to biography information. It is strongly recommended that any such information be removed. This will limit the ability of strangers who come across your profile on other platforms attempting to friend you on Snapchat, and protect your privacy.

9. Do not share your Snap Q codes.

(This is a code that allows others to scan using a snapchat camera that then automatically allows then to be added as your friend) If you don't want a bunch of stranger adding you as a friend, don't publish this.

10. Move any private snaps that you have saved in Memories to My eyes only

You are able to save snaps that you have posted. Some of these you may wish to be private and not available for general consumption.

To do this:

1. Tap the checkmark option in the top right corner of your memories.
2. Select the snaps you want to make private and then tap the lock icon at the bottom of the screen.
3. Snapchat will walk you through the setup process for your My Eyes Only section.

11. Watch who you send things too and watch what you send.

You cannot unsend a Snap.

Make sure you send it to the right person the first time, so get into the habit of double checking who is on your recipient list. Some content is meant to be for certain individuals only.

If content is of an intimate nature be advised that child abuse laws pertaining to intimate images will apply in your state, both for the individual taking the image, the individual sending the image and for any individual that shares an image when the person involved is underage. Threats and demands for nude images are viewed very poorly in all states.

12. Learn how to delete stories

While you cannot unsend snaps you can delete stories you post if you have regret.

Go to Stories – tap on your Story and swipe up and tap the trash can. You cannot do this in bulk, and must do it one at a time.

13. Use Ghost mode on the Snap Map and obscure your location.

This allows users to see geographically where they are and it is very specific to latitude and longitude. Enabling Ghost Mode removes a user from this map, and stops revealing their location.

Our Story can be a problem.

Our story allows users to contribute to a global public feed. It allows users nearby to communicate with each other whether they know each other or not.

Adjust location sharing settings both on an individuals device and within the app. The risk that personal information be accidentally shared globally and possibly put on the world snap map is real.

Added information for parents.

The most attractive feature of Snapchat is the disappearing message. What must be made clear to your child is that these Snaps can be screen shot or recorded.

Users can get a false sense of confidence from assuming a post is not permanent.

This feature often means that the level of bullying that takes place on this app , can be quite high.

Discover is full of dubious content.

Content highlighted in this section is attention grabbing and often could best be described as click bait. Sexual content is high on this list. For parents who have allow a younger user to use this app this is a problem.

This is modified by the recorded age of the user by Snapchat, but the ease at which a user may change their age is notable. Regular check of the birthdate your child is claiming may not go astray to limit the amount of adult content they may view



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