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 Google+ Profile

Google+ provides privacy and sharing options using **Circles**. Circles are groups that users create for different types of connections, such as family, friends, or colleagues. Content is shared only with circles you select. Google+ requires that users provide real names - no pseudonyms.

Profile Settings

Apply and save the **Profile** settings shown below to ensure that your information is visible to only people of your choosing.
Account Settings & Minimizing Your Activities

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

Google+

- Account settings can be accessed under Account Settings > Google+.
- Maintain a small Google+ "footprint". Select only important Google+ notifications as shown in the box to the left.
- Limit notifications to email as opposed to text.
- Do not connect your mobile phone to Google+ or use the Google+ mobile application, and Disable +1 on non-Google Websites
- Do not allow contacts to tag you then automatically link to your profile
- Disable your circles from accessing your photo tags prior to you

Receive notifications

Notify me by email or SMS when someone...

Posts and mentions of my name

- Email
- Phone

Mentions me in a post

Shares a post with me directly

Comments on a post

Comments on a post after I comment on it

Circles

- Email
- Phone

Adds me to a circle

Photos

- Email
- Phone

Tags me in a photo

Tags one of my photos

Comments on a photo after I comment on it

Comments on a photo I am tagged in

Comments on a photo I tagged

Messenger

- Email
- Phone

Starts a conversation with me

Deleting Your Google+ Profile Information or Account

Delete Google+ Content removes Google+ related information such as circles, +1’s, posts, and comments

Delete your entire Google profile removes all user data from Google services, including your Gmail

Disable web history to prevent accumulation of your digital footprint

Useful Links

Wired Kids  www.wiredkids.org/
OnGuard Online  www.onguardonline.gov/topics/social-networking-sites-aspx