

# Keep your child safe on YouTube



## What's the problem?

- Videos that look like they're child-friendly can include violent or disturbing content, and it's difficult for YouTube to catch all of these videos before children see them
- Inappropriate videos may be suggested videos, or appear in search results
- Adults may use YouTube to contact children and 'groom' them into sharing explicit pictures or videos of themselves
- Children might see videos with extremist content
- Children can share personal information, e.g. the street they live on or their school, which could put them in danger

## Create your own account to monitor your child's activity

### 1. Create an account

On the **website**:

- Select 'Sign in' in the top right
- Select 'Create account'
- Follow the on-screen instructions

In the **iPhone** and **iPad app**:

- Select the profile picture icon in the bottom right
- Select 'Sign in', then 'Add account'
- Follow the on-screen instructions

In the **Android app**:

- Select the profile picture icon in the bottom right
- Select 'Sign in', then 'Add account', then 'Create account'
- Follow the on-screen instructions

### 2. Sign into the 'Family Centre' to manage your child's YouTube account

On the **website**:

- Select your profile picture in the top right
- Select 'Settings'
- Scroll to 'Family Centre', then 'manage children's profiles and features for teens.'

In the **iPhone** and **iPad app**:

- Select your profile picture in the bottom/top right
- Select 'Settings'
- Select 'Family Centre'

In the Android app:

- Select your profile picture in the bottom right
- Select 'Settings'
- Select 'Family Centre'

From here, you can [link an older child's profile to your own](#). For children under 12 years old, you should [create a YouTube Kids account](#) instead.

## 5 more steps to take

### 1. Turn on 'Restricted Mode' to help hide videos that may have inappropriate content

On the **website**:

- Select the icon in the top-right corner that represents your YouTube account
- At the bottom, select 'Restricted Mode'
- In the top-right box that appears, select 'Activate restricted mode' to turn on

In the **iPhone and iPad app**:

- In the top right on iPad, bottom right on iPhone, select your profile picture
- Select 'Settings' > 'General'
- Turn 'Restricted Mode' on or off

In the **Android app**:

- In the top right, select your profile picture
- Select 'Settings' > 'General'
- Turn 'Restricted Mode' on or off

### 2. Keep autoplay turned off and manage recommendations

Autoplay is turned off by default for users aged 13 to 17.

To check autoplay is off, check the 'Autoplay' toggle in a video page and make sure it's toggled to off. Depending on your device, this may show in the top right of the screen, or below the video.

You can also use the 'Don't recommend channel' option to remove channels from your recommendations. To do this:

- Select the 3 dots next to a video's title
- Select 'Don't recommend channel'

### 3. Tell your child not to share any personal information in videos or comments

This is anything that could identify them or give away their location, like the name of the street they live on, their school name or their school uniform.

### 4. Check for comments on videos your child uploads

YouTube disables comments on videos of children, but videos can be missed – so do still regularly check for comments made on any videos your child shares.

Look out for comments asking for more specific videos or personal information.

## 5. Flag inappropriate videos and comments to YouTube

Use the 'flagging feature' to prompt YouTube staff to check content and decide whether to block or restrict it in line with its community guidelines:

- On the page with the video, select the 3 dots ('more') icon next to a video or comment
- Select 'Report' (this is a flag icon in Android and iPhone and iPad apps)
- Select the reason for flagging, and provide any extra details you think will help YouTube staff

### Sources

- [YouTube Help](https://support.google.com/youtube#topic=9257498)  
*https://support.google.com/youtube#topic=9257498*
- [Reporting and enforcement, YouTube](https://support.google.com/youtube/topic/2803138?hl=en&ref_topic=6151248)  
*https://support.google.com/youtube/topic/2803138?hl=en&ref\_topic=6151248*
- [More updates on our actions related to the safety of minors on YouTube, YouTube Official Blog](https://blog.youtube/news-and-events/more-updates-on-our-actions-related-to/)  
*https://blog.youtube/news-and-events/more-updates-on-our-actions-related-to/*
- [Exclusive: Adults using YouTube to groom children into making inappropriate videos, 4 News](https://www.channel4.com/news/exclusive-adults-using-youtube-to-groom-children-into-making-inappropriate-videos)  
*https://www.channel4.com/news/exclusive-adults-using-youtube-to-groom-children-into-making-inappropriate-videos*

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