# Facebook Settings and Privacy

Facebook has a lot of issues with privacy and security, however, for many of us, it is the best way to keep track of faraway family and friends. Hopefully, the following suggestions will allow you to feel a little more secure while using the social media site.

## Things to Make Your Facebook Use More Secure

Here are the top things you can do to make using Facebook safer:

* Do NOT use the Facebook app on your phone. Use a web browser on your phone instead.
* Do NOT use the Facebook Messenger app on your phone.
* Install a browser on your computer / device that you ONLY use for Facebook.
* Go through all your Facebook privacy settings.
* Do NOT use Facebook to log into other websites; create credentials for every site.
* Regularly remove third-party apps that have permissions to our account.
* Use privacy and security add-ons to restrict access to your browsing history.

**BONUS:**  Create and use an email account that is unique for Facebook.

# Securing Facebook

## Accessing Your Facebook Settings

1. In the top right corner of the Facebook window, click the gear icon.
2. From the drop down menu, select **Settings**.

### Turn Off Face Recognition

1. Open your Facebook settings. In the left pane, select **Face Recognition**.
2. On the right side of the window, click on **Edit**.
3. Change the toggle from Yes to **No**. Click **Close**.

<https://www.wired.com/story/how-to-turn-off-facebook-face-recognition-features/>

<https://www.cnet.com/how-to/turn-off-facebook-facial-recogition-feature/>

### Secure Your Timeline and Tagging Settings

1. Open your Facebook settings.
2. In the left pane, select **Timeline and Tagging**.

<https://www.facebook.com/help/115469971891543?helpref=faq_content>

### Check Your Privacy Settings

1. Open your Facebook settings.
2. In the left pane, click **Privacy**.

**Who can send you friend requests?**

Setting this to Friends of friends limits the audience of people who can make friend requests, however, it means that if you don’t have friends in common, you can’t receive a friend request from someone.

**Who can see your friends list?**

Unless you know someone famous, Friends of friends is a reasonable choice.

**Do you want search engines outside of Facebook to link to your profile?**

Do you want your Facebook page to come up in a google search of your name?

### Turn Off Location History

<https://www.imore.com/how-stop-facebook-tracking-your-location>

https://www.facebook.com/help/275925085769221

### Remove Third-Party Apps

<https://www.imore.com/how-to-revoke-facebook-app-permissions>

### Facebook’s Instructions for Privacy Settings

<https://www.facebook.com/help/325807937506242>

### The Complete Guide to Facebook Privacy (Wired.com)

<https://www.wired.com/story/facebook-privacy-apps-ads-friends-delete-account/>

### How to Use Facebooks Privacy Settings (Consumer Reports)

<https://www.consumerreports.org/privacy/facebook-privacy-settings/>

### How to Secure our Facebook Account (CNet)

<https://www.cnet.com/how-to/secure-your-facebook-account-in-six-easy-steps/>

<https://www.lifewire.com/how-to-secure-your-facebook-timeline-2487774>

Most tech companies own other tech companies, which means that there could be sharing between them. Here are some of the companies Facebook owns:

Instagram, Oculus VR, WhatsApp

### Facebook and Whatsapp

Currently Whatsapp has extremely strong privacy, with end-to-end encryption, however, co-founder Jan Koum recently left the company, and employees fear that FB may become more aggressive about collecting and selling user data.

<https://www.whatsapp.com/security/>

<https://lifehacker.com/stop-using-whatsapp-if-you-care-about-your-privacy-1825719172>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/30/technology/whatsapp-facebook-jan-koum.html>

## Web Browsers

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Product** | **Site** |
| Chrome | <https://www.google.com/chrome/> |
| Firefox | <https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new/> |
| Opera | <https://www.opera.com/> |

## Web Browser Add-Ons

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Product** | **Availability** | **Site** |
| AdBlock Plus | Firefox, Chrome, Safari | <https://adblockplus.org/> |
| Disconnect | Firefox, Chrome, Safari, IE | <https://disconnect.me/disconnect> |
| Do Not Track Me | Firefox, Chrome, Opera, Safari, IE | <https://abine.com/index.html> |
| Ghostery | Firefox, Chrome, Safari, IE | <https://www.ghostery.com/> |
| HTTPS Everywhere | Firefox, Chrome, Opera | <https://www.ghostery.com/> |

## Chrome WindowChrome Settings

Options

Secured

### To Access Your Browser Settings

1. Click the **Options** (Customize and Control) button in the right corner of the window.
2. From the menu, select **Settings**.
3. To access additional settings, scroll down to the bottom of the window and click **Advanced**.

### To View Add-Ons

1. Click the **Options** button in the right corner of the window.
2. From the menu select **More Tools**.
3. From the pop-out menu, select **Extensions**.
4. In the top Left corner, click on the **three parallel lines** beside Extensions.
5. From the drop down menu, click on **Open Chrome Web Store**.

### To Clear Cache

1. Click the **Options** (Customize and Control) button in the right corner of the window.
2. From the menu, select **Settings**.
3. Scroll down to the bottom of the window and click **Advanced**.
4. At the bottom of the Privacy & Security section, click the link for Clear browsing data.
5. In the pop-up window, set the Time Range as desired, select the items to be deleted, and click **Clear data**.

### To Clear Saved Passwords

1. Click the **Options** (Customize and Control) button in the right corner of the window.
2. From the menu, select **Settings**.
3. Scroll down to the bottom of the window and click **Advanced**.
4. Scroll down to the **Passwords and forms** section and click on the **Manage passwords** link.
5. Toggle off **Offer to save passwords** and clear any saved passwords.

## Edge WindowEdge Settings

Options

Secured

### To Access Your Browser Settings

1. Click the **Options** (More) button in the right corner of the window.
2. From the drop down menu select **Settings**.
3. To access more options, scroll down and click the **View advanced settings**.

### To View Add-Ons

1. Click the **Options** (More) button in the right corner of the window.
2. From the drop down menu select **Extensions**.
3. Click the link for **Get extensions from the store**.

### To Clear Cache

1. Click the **Options** (More) button in the right corner of the window.
2. From the drop down menu select **Settings**.
3. Click the **Choose what to clear** button.
4. Check the desired options and click the **Clear** button.

### To Clear Saved Passwords

1. Click the **Options** (More) button in the right corner of the window.
2. From the drop down menu select **Settings**.
3. Scroll down to the bottom of the menu and click the **View advanced settings**.
4. Scroll down to the Privacy and services section and toggle off **Offer to save passwords**. Click on **Manage my saved passwords** to delete existing saved passwords.

## Firefox WindowFirefox Settings

Secured

Options

### To Access Your Browser Settings

1. Click the **Options** (Open menu) button in the right corner.
2. From the drop down menu select **Options**.
3. Along the left side select **Privacy & Security**.

### To View Add-Ons

1. Click the **Options** (Open menu) button in the right corner.
2. From the drop down menu select **Add-Ons**.
3. In the text box in the top right corner, enter a search term for an add-on (such as privacy).

### To Clear Cache

1. Click the **Options** (Open menu) button in the right corner.
2. From the drop down menu select **Options**.
3. Along the left side select **Privacy & Security**.
4. In the Cookies and Site Data section, click the **Clear Data** button.
5. Check both options and click **Clear**.

### To Clear Saved Passwords

1. Click the **Options** (Open menu) button in the right corner.
2. From the drop down menu select **Options**.
3. Along the left side select **Privacy & Security**.
4. In the Forms & Passwords section, uncheck Ask to save logins and passwords for websites.
5. Click the Saved Logins button to delete existing saved data.

## IE WindowInternet Explorer Settings

Secured

Options

### To Access Your Browser Settings

1. Click the **Options** button in the right corner.
2. From the menu select **Internet Options**.
3. Along the top select the **Security** tab or the **Privacy** tab.

### To Clear Your Cache and Delete Saved Passwords

1. Click the **Options** button in the right corner.
2. From the menu select **Internet Options**.
3. In the Browsing history section, click **Delete**.
4. Select the options to remove and click the **Delete** button.

## Opera WindowOpera Settings

Secured

Options

### To Access Your Browser Settings

1. In the top left corner, click the red **O**.
2. From the drop down menu select **Options**.
3. In the left pane select **Privacy & Security**.

### To View Add-Ons

1. In the top left corner, click the red **O**.
2. From the drop down menu select **Extensions** then from the pop-out menu select **Extensions**.

### To Clear Cache

1. In the top left corner, click the red **O**.
2. From the drop down menu select **History**, then select **Clear browsing data**.
3. Select the desired time frame and the desired items to erase, then click the **Clear browsing data** button.

## Closing Phone Apps

### Closing Apps on an Android Device

1. Tap the Recent Applications Menu button, usually at the lower left of the screen. A list of open apps appears
2. To close an individual app, click the **x** beside the app or swipe right on the app.
3. To close all open apps, if available, tap **Close All**.

To be clear, stopping an app frequently leaves parts of that app still running in the background. To end all processes of that app, you need to force the app to stop.

### To Force Stop Apps on an Android Device

1. Open your device settings. (Typically available from the list off all applications or by pulling down from the top of the screen to open the system tray, and tapping the gear icon.)
2. From the list of available settings, choose **Apps** or **Applications**. (Depending upon your phone.)
3. Scroll through the list to find the specific app you want to close and/or keep from running in the background.
4. Towards the top of the screen, tap the **Force Stop** button.
5. The device asks if you are sure you want to do this, tap **Force Stop**.

### Closing Apps on an iOS Device

1. Double tap on the home button to bring up a screen that displays the open apps.

**OR**

Swipe up twice from the bottom of the screen.

1. Drag an app up towards the top of the screen to close it.

For more, please peruse our Tech Security handout, available online and updated regularly.

<https://olliatwvu.org/for-members/member-resources/document-repository/>

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