



How does MySpace work?

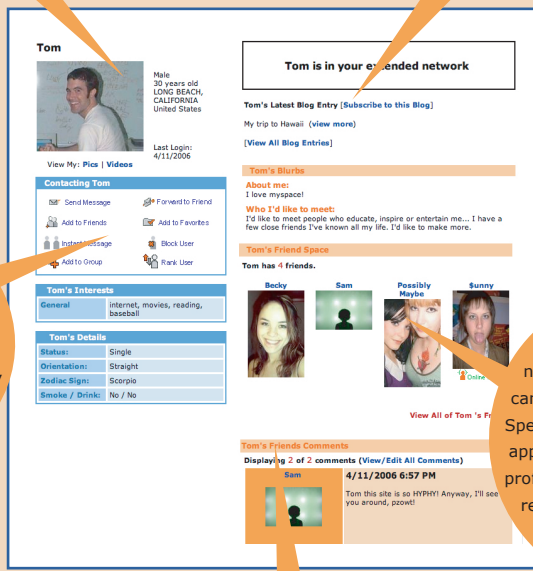
pictures
Members can upload multiple pictures of themselves to show the world the face behind the profile.

blogs
Similar to a diary or journal, members use blogs to post their thoughts, feelings, and musings online. Friends read each other's blogs to keep up on what's new.

contact table
Members use this area of the profile to send messages and IMs, add people to their friends list, or to share profiles with other friends.

comments
Members express appreciation for their friends by leaving comments on their profiles. Comments can include text, pictures, music, video -- anything that can appear on a web page. Comments can also be left on pictures and blog posts.

friends
By searching MySpace's network of profiles, members can link to their friends' profiles. Specific friends can be selected to appear on the main page of their profile, known as the "Top 8." The rest of a member's friends list can be browsed in a separate gallery.



Help at a glance



MySpace info links

Safety Tips- www.myspace.com/safetytips
Frequently Asked Questions- www.myspace.com/faq

Other resources, including links to organizations and software, can be found at:

www.myspace.com/safetytips



Contact MySpace

Our general contact form, located at:

www.myspace.com/contact

allows you to select both a topic and subtopic for your complaint. To report specific issues concerning your child's profile, please e-mail:

parentcare@myspace.com

MySpace in association with:

seventeen

A Guide to MySpace

for parents with teens

"MySpace is a place for friends.

We are dedicated to providing a safe online community where our members can hang out, connect with each other, and express themselves."

Hemanshu Nigam, Chief Security Officer, MySpace.com



What is MySpace?

MySpace is a web site where members can meet friends, find and listen to new bands/music, blog, plan events, play games, and participate in user forums and create positive social change. MySpace has revolutionized the way today's youth communicate and interact online.



How do members use MySpace?

When members join MySpace, they create a profile that reflects their personality and interests. After linking to their friends' profiles, members stay in touch by sending mail messages, chatting over IM, and leaving comments for each other. Members can upload pictures to show off what they look like, and express themselves through blogs.



Why do teens use MySpace?

MySpace has a global membership in the tens of millions-larger than the population of Great Britain-and climbing. The web site consistently ranks in the top five most trafficked sites on the net.

MySpace has quickly become one of the preeminent online destinations for teens. As an online community, MySpace is not only a fun place to hang out with friends, but also an environment for teens to build important peer relationships.



How does MySpace protect its community?



Maintaining a Safe Site

Safety Tips, a handy guide to online safety for both members and parents, is linked at the bottom of every page on MySpace.

MySpace's terms of service forbids any illegal, offensive, or harmful content. With the click of a link, members can alert MySpace to content that violates community rules -- whether it be offensive images or unsolicited spam.



Protecting Younger Members

The minimum age for membership on MySpace is 14 years old. If your child is under 14 and on MySpace, notify MySpace and the profile will be promptly removed.

Profiles belonging to members younger than 16 years old are set by default to only be visible to MySpace members on their friends list. Their information, photos, and the ability to contact them are only available to members they know. Adults are blocked from contacting members under 16 unless they know the younger member's last name or email address.

Members under 18 years old are prevented from participating in group discussions on designated mature topics. Additionally, safety tips aimed at young members appear as they browse the site.

MySpace staff proactively investigates possible underage users. Members found to be younger than 14 or misrepresenting their age to evade privacy protection are deleted.



Partnership with Law Enforcement

A rapid response team is available to law enforcement 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



How can I work with MySpace?

seventeen Magazine Safety Tips

from Editor-in-Chief Atoosa Rubenstein

1. Be Careful

Unless your profile is set to private, anyone can check it out. You should never post personal information like your phone number, address, school, or where you regularly hang out. If you wouldn't share it with a creepy stranger on the street, don't post it on MySpace. Remember that the Internet is a public place and you should think about what you share.

2. Be Skeptical

We may have an idea of who someone is or why they're messaging us, but the truth is, when we're online we should be a little more skeptical. As you're connecting with people, get to know them first before adding them to your friends list. Only add the people that you want to see your profile, check out your friends and view your photos.

3. Be Picky

We all want to share funny things we've done with friends, but once you post something online it can live in cyberspace forever. Before you post an image or comment, take a minute to consider if it's something that might haunt you in a few years--imagine a potential boss or college recruiter is doing a search on you. Don't blow your opportunities for tomorrow just to be cute or outrageous today.

4. Be a Good Online Citizen

MySpace is a place where everyone should feel welcome. If you see hate speech or inappropriate content, or if you're being harassed by another user, talk to your parents and report it to MySpace immediately. Think of this as great, new neighborhood we ALL want to keep safe.

5. Be Real

MySpace is a community and you get out of it what you put in. Use common sense and think about what behavior is ok and what's not cool for the community. The more respectful you are to others, the better the site is for everyone. If you disrespect the community by posting fake profiles or lying about your age, you'll be removed--no exceptions.

Contact your local law enforcement or the FBI if:

- Your teen is exposed to inappropriate material by another member
- Your teen is the victim of cyberbullying that could become physical
- You find evidence your teen is communicating with a possible predator

MySpace safety tips: www.myspace.com/safetytips

Monitoring software for your household computer: www.myspace.com/safetytips