

Parental controls

TikTok has a 'family safety mode' which is designed to allow you to have direct control over their safety settings, meaning that you can turn features on and off remotely.

This includes being able to turn on and off the settings for:

- Restricted mode – this means you can hide content that's inappropriate.
- Messages – which you can limit so they can only be received from friends or turned off completely.
- Screen time controls – which limit how long the app can be used for each day.

To activate the family safety mode, you (as a parent) need to create your own TikTok account and then link this to your child's account.

- Go to your profile (at the bottom of the screen)
- Tap the 3-line menu button at the top
- Tap settings and privacy- family pairing- parent
- follow the same steps on your child's phone but choose teen, then follow the steps in the app to link your accounts.
- Then, scan a QR code from one phone and this will link both the accounts, and let you password-protect the three restrictions we outlined above.

Reporting harmful content/ users

To report a user, go to their profile > tap '...' in the top right > Report > follow the instructions.

To delete a follower, your child should go to their own Profile > Followers > tap the 3-dot icon next to the follower they want to remove > tap 'Remove this follower'

To block users altogether, go to their profile > ... > Block > follow the steps in the app.

You can report specific content through the video, comment or message itself.

To report a message: open it, tap ... > Report > follow the steps in the app

To report a video or comment: long press the video or comment > Report > follow the steps in the app



User Safety-TikTok help centre

Parents' Guide to TikTok



What is TikTok and how does it work?

TikTok is a video sharing platform that gives you the opportunity to create, share, and watch videos. It is a free social media app that users can download and access from their mobile devices.

Each video that is uploaded to TikTok is a maximum of 15 seconds long, although users can string these together to make stories of up to 60 seconds. You can also upload longer videos if they weren't recorded within the app.

The videos that are uploaded to TikTok all vary in content. The content that users upload is entirely up to them and can range from lighthearted content to something much more serious.

Most videos have background music which can be sped up or slowed down, and videos can be edited with filters.

TikTok allows users to connect with each other and interact with videos through likes, comments, hashtags, and shares.

Privacy

Accounts for users aged 13 to 15 will be set to private by default. This means that only approved 'followers' can see your child's videos.

Even with a private account though, anyone can see your child's profile information. Tell them not to share personal information publicly, like their full name or where they go to school. Plus, encourage your child to only accept 'fan' requests from people they know and trust.

To check your child's account is private, on their phone, simply go to your child's profile > the 3-line icon > Settings and Privacy > Privacy > check 'Private Account' is turned on.

If you have family pairing set up, you can check this using family pairing.

The age recommendation is 13 years and above.

Set age limits

You can do this through the family pairing settings. You can also use family pairing to turn off search on your child's account.

If you're not using family pairing, on your child's phone go to their profile > the 3-line menu icon > Settings and privacy > Content preferences > Restricted mode > follow the steps in the app.

Setting screen time

You can do this through the family pairing settings, or on your child's phone.

Go to their profile > the 3-line menu icon > Settings and privacy > Screen time > Daily screen time > follow the steps in the app.