

Digital Footprint

What Information Forms Your Digital Footprint?

Every time we do anything online, the information we provide is leaving a trail and creating an impression of who you are and what you are like.

The following examples are activities that leave behind information which forms your digital footprint:

- uploading videos;
- liking or commenting on videos or posts;
- using a search engine;
- playing online games;
- other people sharing posts and content with you;
- clicking on links and visiting websites.



Think before you:

click;

post;

or share.



A digital footprint is a trail of information you leave behind when using apps or websites. Every time you visit a website, download an app or play a game online, a tiny bit of information about you is saved. This makes up your digital footprint.

How Can I Create a Positive Digital Footprint?



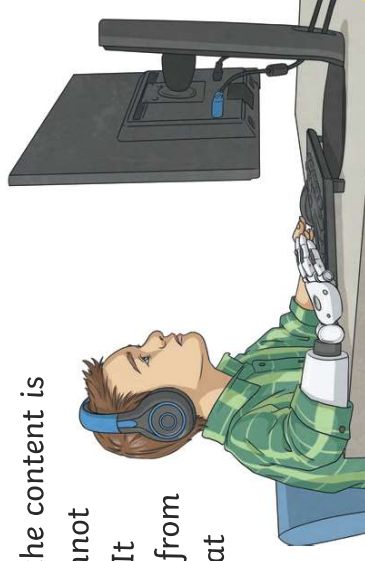
Search for yourself online - Use a search engine to search for your name. Look at what you find. If you find something that upsets you or you think shouldn't be online, talk to a trusted adult.



Check privacy settings - Talk to a trusted adult about the privacy settings on the digital devices you use and web pages you visit. Remember that the content that other people add to your profiles will affect your digital footprint.



Deactivate and delete - When you stop using a web page or profile, delete or deactivate the account. This means the content is no longer live and cannot be searchable online. It also prevents hackers from accessing accounts that you aren't using anymore.



Disclaimer: This activity involves children searching on the Internet. Please be mindful of search terms/topics used and connotations that could result in inappropriate links and pages. Child-friendly search engines are advised. Ensure your firewall settings are set at the appropriate levels necessary and your antivirus software is up to date. It is good practice to ensure screen content can be seen at all times and that children know what to do if they see something on the Internet that makes them feel uncomfortable.