

Gaming Safely

Be aware of age ratings

Games have age ratings for a reason. Be wary of them when playing a game, what it means and why it is there.



Think before you comment

Before you post or make a comment during a game, think about its content. It might be funny to you and your friends but upsetting or offensive to others.

Avoid aggressive behaviour

Gaming can be intense and get competitive. This means tensions can run high! Before you say something inappropriate or become aggressive, stop. Take a breath and take a break if needed.



Don't say 'yes' to peer pressure

If you are being pressured in a game to do, or say, something you are not comfortable with, no matter how friendly, persuasive or even threatening they may be, always say "no". Stay safe when talking to online friends. Never be persuaded to send personal things like photos or videos, or personal information.

Send

Passwords

Hackers can easily get into online accounts through spam. Avoid this by giving your gaming accounts a strong password and changing it on a regular basis. You should also have a different password for different gaming accounts to avoid patterns. Never show or share your password with anyone outside your family.



Don't meet online "friends"

There are no exceptions to this rule. People you meet online while gaming may not be who they say they are and could even be an adult pretending to be a child. Tell an adult immediately if this happens.

Consider blocking

Most games will have a block function, so you can ignore someone who is behaving inappropriately or is upsetting you.



Don't be a victim of bullying

Just because someone is behind a screen, this doesn't make jokes, teasing or taunts at someone else's expense any less upsetting. If you feel you are being bullied, leave that game report it at once.

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