

A Guide To Parental Controls For Instagram



Instagram is one of the most popular apps in Singapore with teenagers. The main purpose of Instagram is to post photos of oneself and send direct messages between users, but it has evolved to include Instagram Stories – short videos and photos that can be seen up to 24 hours.

What types of content can I restrict?









Instagram has privacy settings to control who can see your child's photos and videos, which is particularly important since these tend to reveal a lot about their personal lives.

What do I do?

1. On Instagram, click the icon shaped like a person to go to the **Profile** page. Click the three dashed button on the top right of the profile. Then, click the **Settings** gear button.

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2. In the **Settings**, scroll down to make sure the account is a **Private account**. This should be automatic, but if the bar is grey, swipe to the right and click **OK** to the pop-up. The feature should be swiped blue when turned on.

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\leftarrow Settings	\leftarrow Settings	\leftarrow Settings
Saved	Saved	Saved
Payments	Payments	Payments
Posts you've liked	Posts you've liked	Posts you've liked
Original photos	Origi	Original photos
Search history	Sean Change to private account? When your account is private, only	Search history
Mobile data use	Mobi people you approve can see your photos, videos and stories on	Mobile data use
Language	Lang	Language
Private account	Priva OK	Private account
When your account is private, only people you approve will see your photos and videos. Your existing followers won't be affected.	When will se Cancel	When your account is private, only people you approve will see your photos and videos. Your existing followers won't be affected.
Switch to business account	Switch to business account	Switch to business account
Sign up for a business profile	Sign up for a business profile	Sign up for a business profile
Privacy and security	Privacy and security	Privacy and security
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3. Go back to **Settings**, and scroll down to the section **Privacy and security**. Click **Activity status** to control whether people who your child follows and messages can see when they were last active on Instagram. This is automatically turned on and blue, but you can swipe left to turn it off.

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\leftarrow Settings	← Activity status
Privacy and security	Show activity status
Blocked accounts	Allow accounts that you follow and anyone you message to see when you were last active on Instagram apps. When this is turned off, you won't be able to see the activity status of other accounts.
Activity status	
Story controls	
Comment controls	
Photos and videos of you	
Linked accounts	
Account data	
Two-factor authentication	
Data download	
Contacts syncing	
Privacy and security help	
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5. Go back to **Settings**, and click on **Story controls** to decide whether only people who follow them can your child can reply to their Instagram Story. Click **Your followers**. Replies to Instagram Story are not public, but sent as direct messages.

Further down on the page, you can also turn off the **Allow sharing** function. This means that people your child follows or who follow them cannot share their Instagram Story photos or videos as messages.

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\leftarrow Settings	\leftarrow Story controls	\leftarrow Story controls
Privacy and security		Followers you follow back
Account privacy	Hide story from	Off
Blocked accounts	O people	Choose who can reply to your story.
Activity status		Saving
Story controls	Allow message replies	Save to archive
Comment controls	Followers you follow back	Save to gallery
Photos and videos of you	Off	Automatically save photos and videos in your archive so that you don't have to save them on your phone. Only you will be able to see them after they disappear from your story.
Linked accounts	Choose who can reply to your story.	Sharing
Account data	Saving	Allow sharing
Two-factor authentication	Save to archive	Let your followers share photos and videos from your story as messages. Only your followers can see
Data download	Save to gallery	what's been shared.
Contacts syncing	Automatically save photos and videos in your archive so that you don't have to save them on your phone. Only you will be	Share your story to Facebook
Privacy and security help	able to see them after they disappear from your story.	Automatically share photos and videos from your story to your Facebook story.



6. Go back to **Settings**, and click **Comment controls**. Make sure that the option to **Hide offensive comments** is turned on and blue. Otherwise, swipe right to turn it on.

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← Settings	\leftarrow Comment controls		
Privacy and security	Controls		
Account privacy	Block Comments from 0 people >		
Blocked accounts	Any new comments from people you block won't be visible to anyone but them.		
Activity status	Filters		
Story controls	Hide offensive comments		
Comment controls	Automatically hide comments that may be offensive from your posts.		
Photos and videos of you	Manual filter		
Linked accounts	Hide comments that contain specific words or phrases from your posts.		
Account data			
Two-factor authentication			
Data download			
Contacts syncing			
Privacy and security help			



7. You can change who your child follows. On their Profile, click **Followers** or **Following** at the top. To unfollow someone, click the **Following** button next to their name. A popup will appear to confirm that you want to follow the account. Click **Unfollow**.





8. You can change who follows your child too. On their Profile, click **Followers** at the top. To remove someone as a Follower, click the three dotted button next to their name. A pop-up will appear to confirm that you want to remove the account. Click **Remove**.





9. You can disable commenting for photos. Go to the photo and click the three dotted button on the top right. Then, click **Turn off commenting**.





10. You can report a comment on a post for spam or abuse. Go to the photo with the comment and click the comment. Then, click the exclamation point on the top right. Click either **Spam or scam** or **Abusive content**. If you click **Abusive content**, you will be given the option to specify why the comment is inappropriate.





11. You can also report a post for spam or abuse. Go to the photo and click the three dotted button on the top right. Click **Report**. Then, click either **Spam or scam** or **Abusive content**. If you click **Abusive content**, you will be given the option to specify why the comment is inappropriate.





12. You can also report someone who posts spam or abusive posts and messages. Go to the person's profile and click the three dotted button on the top right. Click **Report**. Then, click either **It's spam** or **It's inappropriate**. If you click **It's inappropriate**, it lets you specify why you think so. Once you report an account, Instagram automatically blocks it.

