



CANADA'S CENTRE
FOR DIGITAL AND
MEDIA LITERACY

Family Online Rules

Having a family agreement or set of rules for using the Internet is a good idea. It's a great way for parents and kids to work together on how to be safe, wise and responsible online. Here are some ideas to help you get started.

- I will always get my parents' permission before giving out any personal information online. This includes my name, gender, telephone number, home or email address, location of my school, my parents' work addresses, email addresses or telephone numbers, their credit card number information, and pictures of me or my family.
- When using the Internet, I will always use a pretend name or a nickname that doesn't let other people online know anything about me.
- When creating a password, I will make one up that is hard for someone else to guess but easy for me to remember. I will never reveal it to anyone (except my parents or a trusted adult) - not even my best friend.
- I will show an adult any message or website that makes me uncomfortable or threatened.
- I will NOT arrange to meet a friend I have made on the Internet unless a parent or an adult that I trust will be going with me.
- I will ask an adult first before opening any email, files, links, pictures or games from people that I don't know or trust.
- I will check the source of the information I find online to see if it is true or not, and confirm it with a parent, teacher or librarian.
- I will practice responsible online behaviour: I won't use the Internet to bully other people; post or send insulting, rude or mean messages about other people, 'flame' someone or make threats.
- I will give other people credit when I use their ideas or copy parts of their documents straight from the Internet in my homework or other projects.
- I will only download or use copyright material, including video, pictures, music and software, if I have permission from the owner or the website.
- I will not disable any filtering software my parents have put on the computer.
- I will only buy things online, if I have my parents' permission.

