

Tell an adult/parent immediately if someone in the gaming environment asks for personal information.

Don't share gaming accounts or account information with friends. Keep passwords private.

Remember—online gambling is ILLEGAL—don't participate in games that could get you in trouble.

Select safe gaming sites. The safest gaming sites are those with posted gaming rules, codes of conduct, and live administrators (who can immediately reprimand and ban online gaming harassers). Look for sites that offer features that allow users to mute, block or report offenders.

Be careful using voice chatting. Some game systems feature headsets which allow voice chatting with other players. Voice can easily identify you as a minor. Voice-masking technology is also now available which can disguise a person's real voice. However, remember that adults can use this technology to make it more difficult to know if they are a child or adult.

Choose appropriate screen names. Usernames should not contain personal information or other content that could potentially invite harassment.

Create private games—games that allow private play with only invited guests are the safest. Be careful with this private gaming option, though. Do not invite strangers to play since they may introduce inappropriate conversation into the game.

Ignore, report, and if necessary walk away from a game when harassed by griefers.

General Internet Safety Tips

1. Think carefully before revealing personal information.
2. Never communicate with someone who makes you feel uncomfortable—even if you know who they are.
3. Never meet someone offline who you met online, without parental permission.
4. Tell an adult immediately if you see, hear, or run across something that makes you feel uncomfortable online.
5. Remember that people online may not be who they say they are.