



Fact sheet

SNAPCHAT (For youth)



Follow us:



@ThinkUKnow_Aus



facebook.com/ThinkUKnowAustralia

What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is an application which is free to download on iOS and Android devices that allows users to send images and videos ('snaps') to each other. Snaps can be viewed for up to 10 seconds before they 'dissolve'.

Operating the app requires use of the device's data plan or a wireless internet connection. Images can be drawn on using a whiteboard-style tool and can be given a caption. Snapchat also gives users the ability to put special effect filters and emojis over images or videos to create different looks or themes.



Is Snapchat free?

Yes, Snapchat is a free application that can be downloaded on most devices. Operating the app may attract costs depending on whether or not you use a wireless connection and if you choose specific special effect filters.

Who can see the snaps that I send?

There are many ways an image can be saved, even on Snapchat. iOS and Android devices have a feature which allows the device to take a photo of what is on the screen ('screenshot'). Snapchat notifies the sender if an image they have sent has been captured, however there are also other ways images can be saved without the sender being notified, so it is important to think before you send a snap.

It is important to read the Snapchat privacy policy as it provides information about how your images and videos are kept and used. You should to be aware that Snapchat has the right to reproduce, modify and republish photos and videos, and save them to the Snapchat servers, particularly in relation to the 'Live Story' feature.

Is Snapchat a 'safe sexting' application?

It is important to know that there is no such thing as 'safe sexting' and Snapchat is no exception. You need to be aware that as soon as you send an image you have lost control.

Sending sexually explicit images of someone under the age of 18, even if you've taken the photo of yourself, could be an offence under State and Commonwealth law.

If someone sends you an explicit image of themselves, you need to realise three things:

1. **It's not your photo** - you have no intellectual property ownership rights whatsoever to the image
2. **It's not you in the picture** - it's not your face or your body in the photo
3. **It's not your decision who to share it with** - you don't get to decide who else sees the picture, that decision should always remain with the person in the photo.

How can I stop people I don't know sending me snaps?

Snapchat has limited privacy settings, however, you can limit who can send you snaps. This can be enabled by going into the **Settings** menu, select '**Who can send me snaps**', then select '**My friends**'. This will ensure that only users on your contact list can send you snaps.



How do I block a user?

To delete or block a contact on Snapchat find their username on your '**My Friends**' list and swipe or press their name, select '**Edit**' or the gear icon, and select '**Delete**' or '**Block**'.

How do I delete my account?

To delete your Snapchat account, you need to go to <https://support.snapchat.com/delete-account> and enter your account username and password.

What are the potential problems with Snapchat?

Ethically, you need to be aware of the impact that your online behaviour has on your reputation and others.

If you share sexualised or naked images or videos of yourself or someone else via Snapchat, you may be committing an offence. Even if you think that you are happy to send or receive a message from someone, once you have sent it you have lost control of it – even if you've set your snaps to one second!



Fact sheet

SNAPCHAT (For youth)



Follow us:



@ThinkUKnow_Aus



facebook.com/ThinkUKnowAustralia

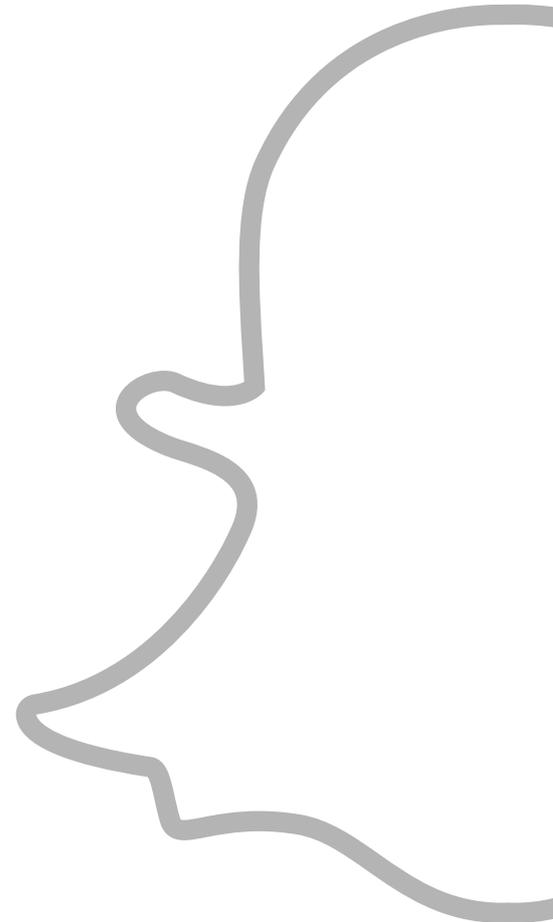
If these images are saved and uploaded anyone could come across or find the images, such as your future employer or even your parents! Even scarier, they could still be out there when you have kids of your own!

By sending naked selfies or nudes you may make yourself and others more vulnerable to bullying and cyberbullying.

This might happen at school or even online with people posting and sharing the image on social networking or instant messenger apps.

Top 3 Snapchat Tips

1. Never share images or videos that you wouldn't be happy for the world to see.
2. Be aware of how to block, report and delete users on all your accounts and apps.
3. Restrict your account settings so only people you know and trust can communicate with you.



thinkuknow.org.au

