Facebook Messenger Privacy And Security Settings

Controls & settings guide

Messenger makes it easy and fun to stay close to your favourite people. You can control your privacy by making certain information private or public.

1 How to block someone

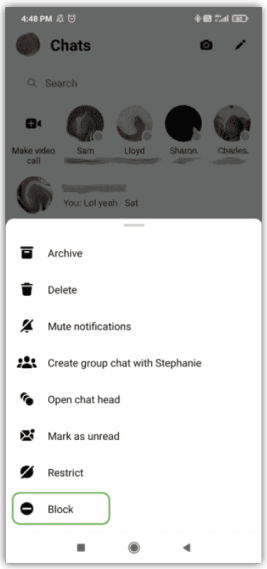
If someone is bothering you, you can block them and they'll no longer be able to contact you on Facebook Messenger.

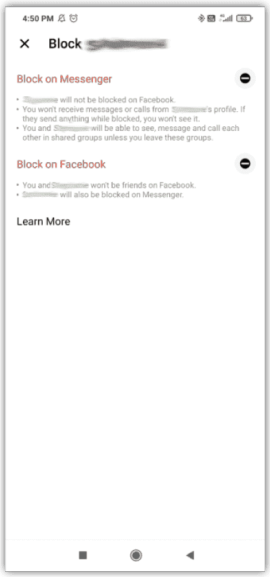
How to block someone:

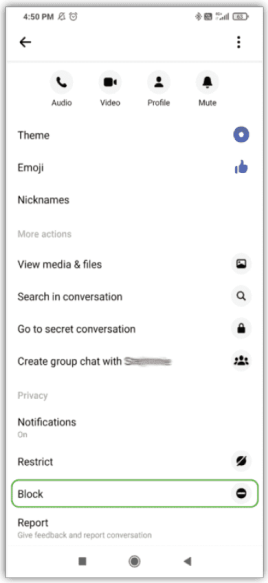
Step 1 – From **Chats**, long press the chat of the person you'd like to block and tap **Block**.

Step 2 – Block the user just on **Messenger** or also block them on **Facebook**.

You can also block them from their profile.





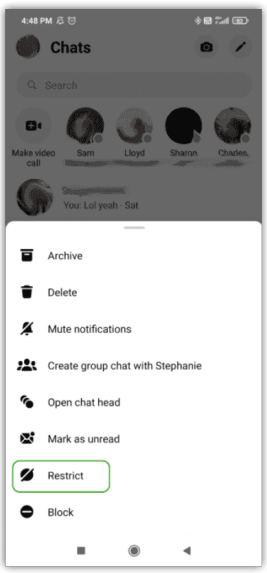


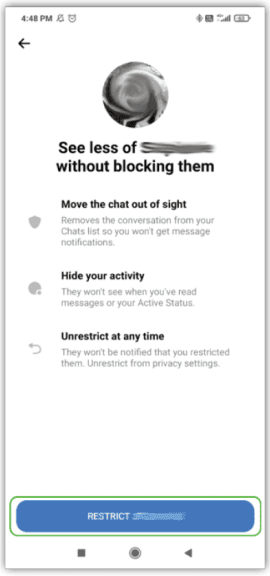
How to restrict someone:

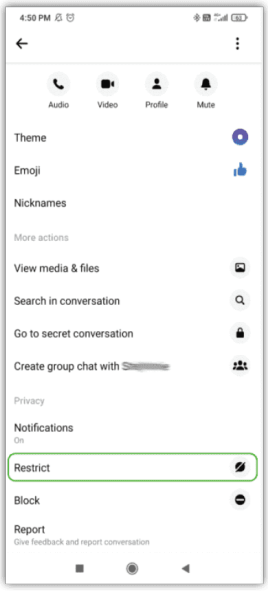
Instead of blocking a person, you can restrict them. This means the conversation is moved from your chat list and they can't see when you're active.

Step 1 – from **Chats**, long press the chat of the person you'd like to block and tap **Restrict**.

Step 2 – tap **Restrict [NAME]** at the bottom of the screen.







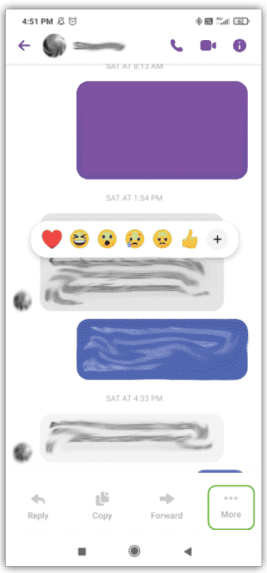
2 Report a user or message

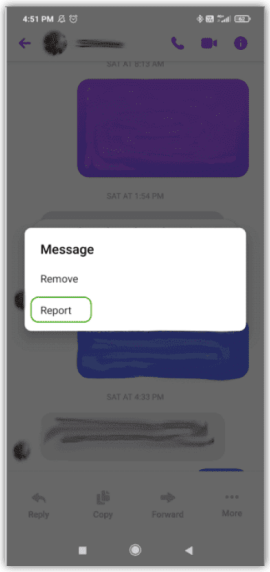
How to report:

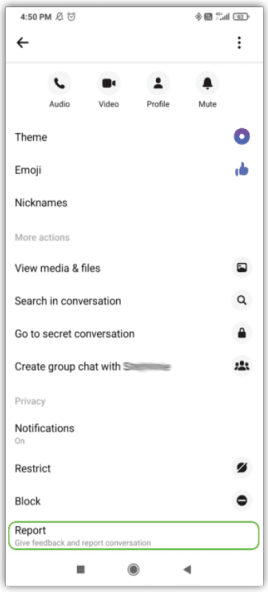
Step 1 – Go to the **chat** with the user. **Longpress** the message you want to report and then select **More**. Tap **Report** and choose the **reason**. Then tap **Submit Report**.

You can also report a chat and user by going to their **profile** and scrolling to the bottom. Tap **Report**. Follow the instructions and tap **Submit Report**.

If Facebook sees that it violates their Community Standards, they'll take the appropriate action such as disabling accounts or limiting their ability to send messages.







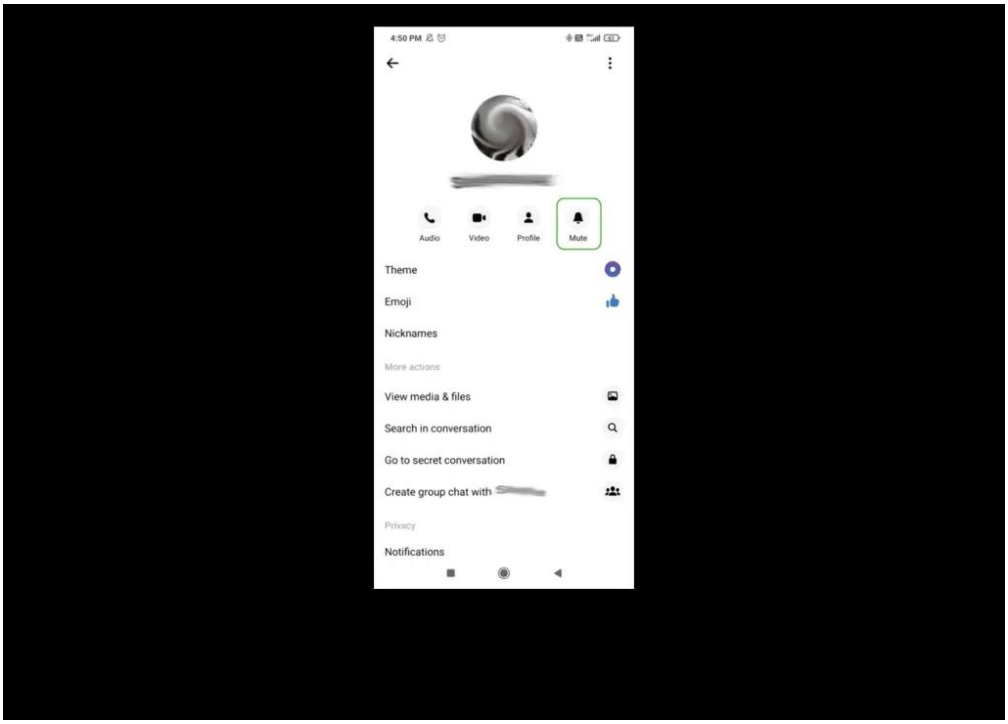
3 How to mute someone

Muting someone allows you to ignore notifications from that person.

To mute someone:

Step 1 – go to the user's profile by opening your **chat** with them and clicking their **profile picture**.

Step 2 – Under their name, click the **bell icon** on the right that says **Mute**. You can then choose to mute notifications, calls or both.



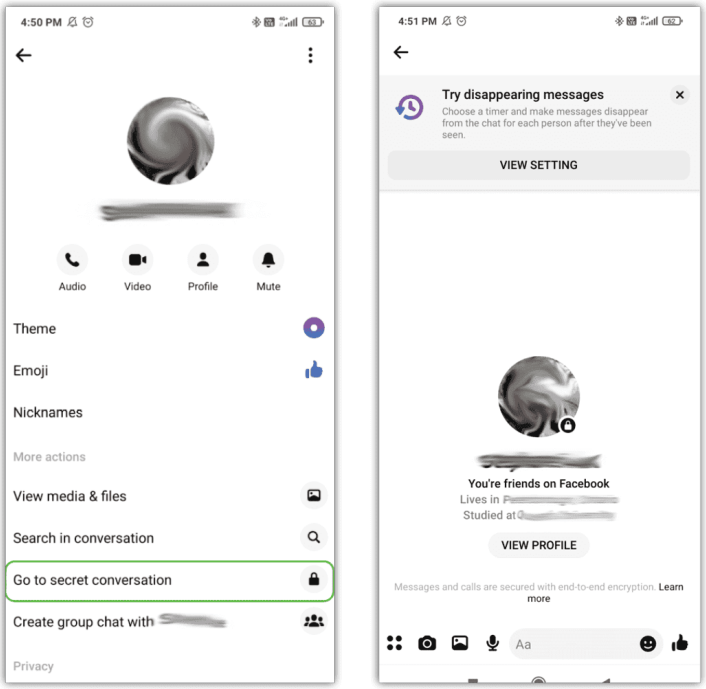
4 Secret conversations

Facebook Messenger lets users message and call each other through Secret conversations where messages are secured with end-to-end encryption (E2EE). Learn more about E2EE.

How to start a secret conversation:

Step 1 – Go to a user's profile. This can be done by **selecting the chat** you have with them and **clicking on their profile picture**.

Step 2 – Under **More actions**, select **Go to secret conversation** and then start messaging.



5 Disappearing messages

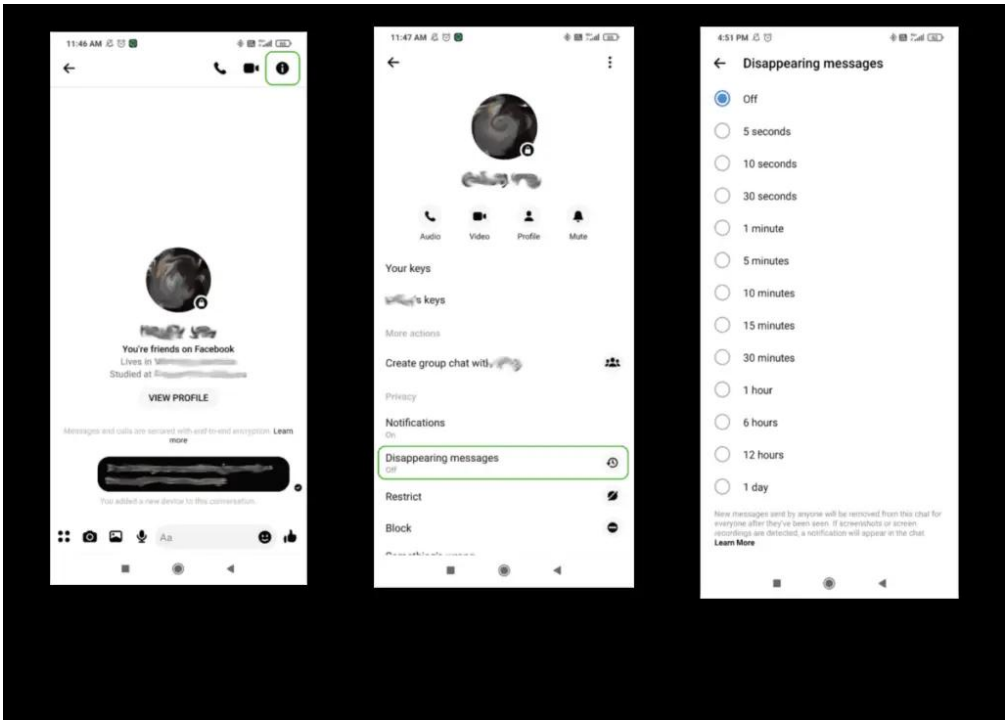
This feature is **only available in a secret conversation** and will delete messages after a set amount of time for more security.

How to set up disappearing messages:

Step 1 – go to the **secret conversation chat** and select the **information icon** in the top right. Note: this will only appear once at least one message is sent.

Step 2 – under **Privacy**, select **Disappearing messages**. Choose how long you'd like your messages to show up before disappearing or turn the option off.

Note: Disappearing message settings can also be viewed when you first go into secret conversations at the top of the chat.



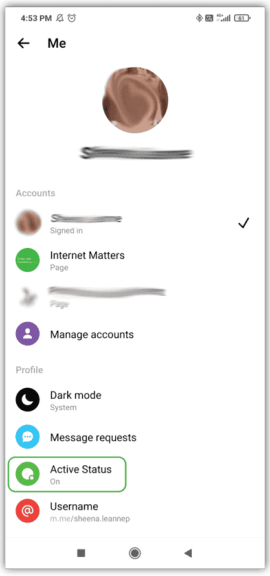
6 Where to control who sees when you're active

An Active Status shows your friends and contacts when you're active or were recently active on Facebook or Messenger. You'll also see when your friends and contacts are active or have been recently active.

How to turn off Active Status:

Step 1 – From **Chats**, tap on your **profile picture**.

Step 2 – Under **Profile**, select **Active Status**. Tap the **toggle** to turn your status off. When on, this will be green. When off, it will be grey.



7 Remove a message that you've sent

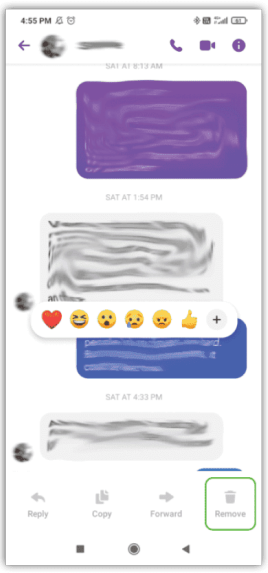
You can permanently remove a message that you've sent for everyone in the chat or just for yourself.

To remove a message you sent:

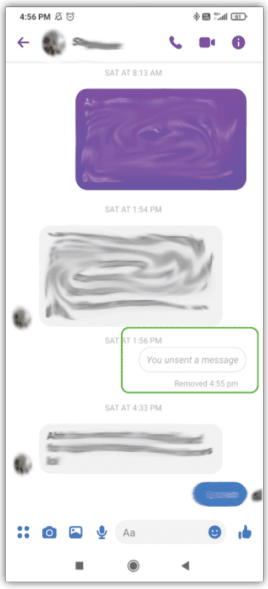
Step 1 – open a Messenger **conversation** and **long press** the message you want to remove. Tap **Remove** in the menu that comes up.

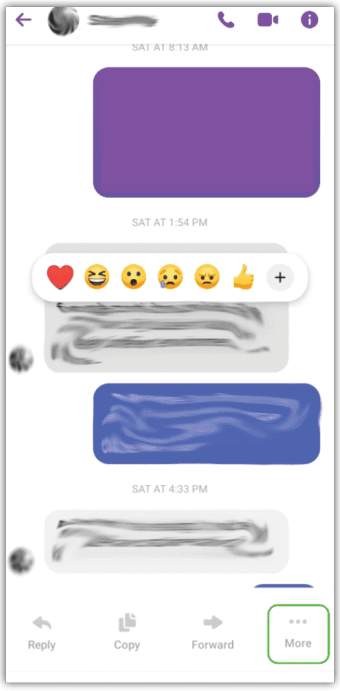
Step 2 – select **Unsend** to delete the message for everyone or **Remove for you** to delete the message for you only.

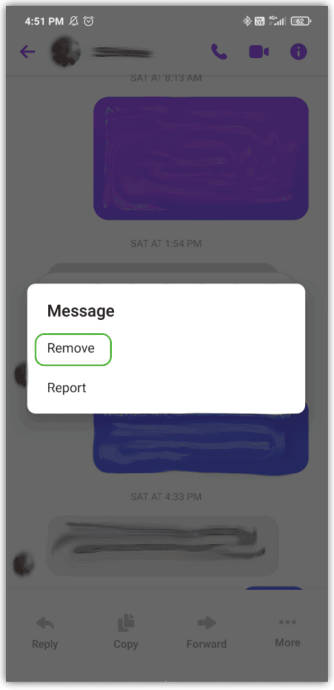
You can also do the same for messages sent to you. **Long press** the message you want to remove, tap **More** and select **Remove** > **Remove for you**. The other user will still see the message.


Reply
Copy
Forward
Remove

Who do you want to remove this message for?
Unsend
Remove for you


You unsent a message


Reply
Copy
Forward
More


Message
Remove
Report
Reply
Copy
Forward
More