Parental controls guide
WhatsApp privacy guide

Parental Controls information

Type of guide

Social media privacy guides

Features and Benefits

WhatsApp privacy settings allow you to restrict who can see your child’s messages and location. There are also ways to block, delete, or report users on the platform.

What specific content can I restrict?

- Chatting
- Downloading file sharing
- Location sharing
- Privacy
- Privacy and identity theft

What do I need?

A WhatsApp account
Step by step guide

1. **Control who sees your information** You can set your last seen, profile photo and/or status to the following options: Everyone, My Contacts and Nobody: Open WhatsApp and go to your Settings, tap Account, then tap Privacy. Next, tap your selected option, then choose from either option: ‘Everyone’, ‘My Contacts’ or ‘Nobody’. The changes will be applied automatically.
WhatsApp privacy guide

**Account**

- Last Seen: Nobody
- Profile Photo: My Contacts
- About: My Contacts
- Groups: Everyone
- Status: My Contacts

**Privacy**

- Everyone
- My Contacts
- Nobody
WhatsApp privacy guide

Step by step guide

2  How to block contacts You can stop receiving messages, calls and status updates from certain contacts by blocking them. Open WhatsApp, choose the person you want to block either by searching or scrolling through your chat list. Tap on their name, then scroll down and tap Block Contact.
How to report contacts Open WhatsApp, choose the person you want to report either by searching or scrolling through your chat list. Tap on their name, then scroll down and tap Report or Report and Block Contact. Please note, if you report and block, your chat with this contact will also be deleted.
WhatsApp privacy guide
How to change group privacy settings You can decide who can add you to groups by selecting your preferred option. Open WhatsApp, go to Settings, tap Account, Privacy then Groups. Next, choose from either option: ‘Everyone’, ‘My Contacts’ or ‘My Contacts Except...’ Admins who can’t add you to a group will have the option of inviting you privately instead.
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**WHO CAN ADD ME TO GROUPS**

- **Everyone**
- **My Contacts**
- **My Contacts Except...**

Admins who can't add you to a group will have the option of inviting you privately instead.
Disable automatic photo or video downloads

The default settings for WhatsApp is that photos and videos you receive are automatically saved to your camera roll. To disable this: Open WhatsApp, go to Setting, tap Chat, next to Save to Camera Roll, slide to toggle off. If prompted, tap DONE or tap OK. Group privacy settings aren’t available on WhatsApp Web or Desktop.
WhatsApp privacy guide

Settings

- Starred Messages
- WhatsApp Web/Desktop

Account
- Chats
- Notifications
- Data and Storage Usage

Help
- Tell a Friend

Chat Wallpaper

Save to Camera Roll
Automatically save photos and videos you send to your device's Camera Roll

Chat Backup

Archive All Chats
Clear All Chats
Delete All Chats
Enable Screen Lock When enabled, you’ll need Face ID to unlock WhatsApp. Open WhatsApp, go to Settings, tap Account, Privacy then tap Screen Lock. Swipe to switch the feature on, then tap the time you want to apply. These changes are automatically applied.
WhatsApp privacy guide

If you turn off read receipts, you won’t be able to see read receipts from other people. Read receipts are always sent for group chats.

Screen Lock

Require Face ID to unlock WhatsApp.
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When enabled, you'll need to use Face ID to unlock WhatsApp. You can still reply to messages from notifications and answer calls if WhatsApp is locked.

- **Immediately**
- After 1 minute
- After 15 minutes
- After 1 hour
WhatsApp privacy guide

Step by step guide

1. Disable Live Location
   - Live location requires background location which can be managed from your device settings: Go to your device Settings, then scroll down to WhatsApp, tap this then tap Location. To turn off location select the Never or Ask Next Time option. Go back to WhatsApp to check the location is switched off. Go to Settings, Account, Privacy then Live Location.
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**Location**

**ALLOW LOCATION ACCESS**

- **Never**
- **Ask Next Time**
- **While Using the App**
- **Always**

App explanation: "If you always allow access for your location, you can choose to clear your live location, and it will update even when you’re not using the app. If you only allow access while using the app, you can only access your current location or a nearby place."

**Privacy**

**Live Location**

You aren’t sharing live location in any chats.

Live location requires background location. You can manage this in your device settings.