



# Glossary of Online Safety Terminology



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# Glossary of Online Safety Terminology

## Adware

Software application which displays adverts and can redirect searches.

## App

Short for application, typically used to refer to a piece of software designed for a particular purpose.

## Block

To block someone from contacting a user on a social media account for example.

## Blog/Blogging

An updated webpage containing users' opinions/experiences/observations.

## Bot

A program that can do things without a user needing to give instructions. Many bots are malware.

## CEOP

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Command is tasked to bring offenders to UK Courts.

## Chatroom

A place on the internet where one or more people can chat.

## Chatroulette

Strangers interacting over text-chat and webcam. Lots of users post sexual images.

## Circumventor Sites

Parallel websites that allow children to bypass sites their adults have blocked.

## Cookie

A small file which records a user's personal preferences, shopping choices and other information.

## Creeping

Someone who follows someone else's social network profile closely.

## Cyberbullying

The use of electronic communication to bully someone.

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## Decoy App

These apps help children hide videos/images from their parents.

## Digital Footprint

A person's trail of data on the internet that can last indefinitely.

## Emoji

A small digital image used to express an idea, action or emotion in electronic communication.

## Fabotage

Accessing someone else's social media account without their knowledge and changing information on it.

## Firewall

A security system that protects an internal network from an external one such as the internet.

## Gamer

A person who plays video games including online, likely with other online users.

## Gamer Tag

An alter ego made from an alias, picture or avatar. Sometimes these are offensive.

## Griefer

Someone who deliberately harasses online gamers during a gaming session.

## Grooming

Someone who gains a child's trust for sexual exploitation or trafficking.

## Hacker

A person who uses technology to gain unauthorised access to information.

## Identity Theft

A crime where data is pieced together from an individual to impersonate them for financial gain.

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## IM

Instant message sent between users via the internet. These are very popular with younger generations.

## Netiquette

Netiquette is the code of good behaviour on the internet. As the internet changes, so does netiquette.

## In-app purchasing

Purchases of services or products are possible within some apps, such as game apps, and real money is required by them.

## Pharming

Directing a user to a bogus website that pretends to be a real one in order to extract information from them.

## Incognito browsing

This allows a user to browse the web without their history being recorded on their device.

## Phishing

Emails which appear legitimate but are fake, and entice a recipient to share confidential information.

## ISP

An internet service provider gives access to the internet. ISPs have to comply with the Investigatory Powers Act 2016.

## Photo Sharing

Some apps allow users to share images for a few seconds. These apps can be very damaging to children.

## Malware

Software which is made to disrupt, damage or gain unauthorised access to a device.

## PM

Private or personal message sent via the internet. Popular feature available on many social media platforms.

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## Profile

Often social media sites will allow users to create their own personal profiles which other users can see.

## Spyware

Software that covertly collects information from a device without the device user's permission.

## Selfie

Self-portrait photo often taken at arm's length using a Smartphone and uploaded to social media.

## Trojan

A type of malware which is disguised as legitimate software and accesses confidential information.

## Sexting

Sending and receiving sexually explicit images/videos via IM, text or social media.

## Troll

A user who posts inflammatory messages typically on Social Media sites to upset others.

## Social Media

Websites and applications where users can share content and participate in social networking.

## Video Hosting Sites

Websites and apps which allow users to post and view video clips, like YouTube.

## Spam

Messages sent to large numbers of users for the purpose of phishing, spreading malware and advertising.

## Virus

A virus can do many things such as steal data and control a device. They are often caught from email attachments and downloading from a website.