

PROTECT YOUR FACEBOOK

How to protect your personal information on Facebook

CBC NEWS

March 21, 2018

Facebook barred third-party apps from collecting information on users' friends in 2015. Nonetheless, it's still worth learning which apps have access to your data and curtailing their access, if you so choose.

To do this, log into Facebook and click on the drop-down menu in the top right. Find "Settings" and then click "Apps" to see which have access to your information.

If you click on the apps listed there, it will show what kinds of information they have access to, such as status updates or work history. Click "Remove" to halt an app from accessing your data.

On the same page you'll find the "Apps, Websites and Plugins" section. Clicking "Edit" and then "Disable platform" will help keep third-party apps from linking to your Facebook account.

Users also have the option of asking third-party app developers to delete info they've collected on them. It may be difficult to find contact information for these companies, however, and there's no guarantee that they will in fact erase the information.

Reckoning with the app

Using the company's app on your mobile device provides Facebook with additional ways to gather information about users, such as their location. Uninstalling it will help minimize the data Facebook collects.

There are also ways to limit the data gathered by the app. For example, iPhone users can go to "Settings" on their phone, then to "Privacy" and finally to "Location Services" to choose whether they want Facebook to track your movements. For Android phones, click on "Account Settings"; then "Location" and

look for Facebook there.

If you decide to keep the app, make sure that you set up a passcode so that, if its lost or stolen, someone else won't be able to access sensitive personal information in your Facebook account (or other social media programs).

Erasing your account

If you've decided it's time to get off Facebook once and for all, it's fairly easy to delete your account if you know where to find the right web page. Click [this link](#), then log in to your account and click "Delete My Account."

It's possible to download an archive of the personal information related to your account, including the photos that you've uploaded, which users would need to do beforehand. Click on "Settings" in the top right, then on "Download a copy of your Facebook data," then hit "Start My Archive."

Also bear in mind that Facebook may still be able to collect information on you that's posted by, say, friends or family who continue using their accounts even after you've deleted yours.