

Checklist

This checklist is primarily sourced from “How to dox yourself on the Internet” (NYT Open Team <https://open.nytimes.com/how-to-dox-yourself-on-the-internet-d2892b4c5954>)

Also: “Digital safety: Protecting yourself against online harassment” (Committee to Protect Journalists, <https://cpj.org/2018/11/digital-safety-protecting-against-online-harassment/>)

And: Digital Safety Snacks that are part of the “Online violence response hub” (International Women’s Media Foundation <https://www.iwmf.org/our-programs/online-violence-courses-and-resources/>)

If you are using your own laptop, try an “Incognito” or “Private” window for these searches.

- **Do you have a website or websites?**
 - Do you have a contact page?
 - Is your phone number on your contact page or elsewhere?
 - Is your home address on your contact page or elsewhere?
 - Check your domain name (URL) here: <https://lookup.icann.org/en/lookup>
- **Google yourself – but do not put your address or phone numbers into the search engine alongside your name. Replace “Your name” with your first and last names. Do not replace the second search term or terms.**
 - Search “Your name” AND “address”
 - Search “Your name” AND “phone” or “cell”
 - Search “Your name” AND ... Try Ottawa, cities you’ve lived in before, places you work or have worked.
 - Test different versions of your name in your search.
 - Test your email address or addresses.
 - You can search for your name or email address in online files. For example to search online spreadsheets try “filetype:xls intext:firstname.lastname@cmail.carleton.ca”
 - Set a Google alert for your name.

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- **Are you in the phone book?**
 - Search your last name in Canada411.ca
 - Try “Reverse address lookup”
 - Try “Reverse postal code”
- **Social media**
 - Check the handles you use regularly in <https://namecheckr.com> As the NYT guide puts it: “This can help you discover old accounts you may have set up, as well as keep an eye [out] for impersonation accounts.”
 - Check your name, handle, images on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/search-advanced>
 - Review your privacy/security settings on Facebook, Instagram and other social media sites you use regularly – what do you want people to be able to see?
 - If you have previously locked down or made your Instagram, Facebook or other social media private, consider pairing with a partner: How much of your information can they find or see?
- **Data breaches**
 - Try your email or username here: <https://haveibeenpwned.com/>

Now what?

“Online account security” – Freedom of the Press Foundation
<https://freedom.press/training/online-account-security/>

“Social media security and privacy checklists” – NYT Open
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ud1LFkIG0BeLX9jlzJMxCPm8-cSeqPjU60nhUPYA8/>

“Secure accounts” – Coalition Against Online Violence
<https://onlineviolenceresponsehub.org/secure-accounts>

“Digital safety: Remove personal data from the internet” – The Committee to Protect Journalists <https://cpj.org/2019/09/digital-safety-remove-personal-data-internet/>

“Digital safety: Protecting against online harassment” – The Committee to Protect Journalists <https://cpj.org/2018/11/digital-safety-protecting-against-online-harassmen/>

“Canada Press Freedom Project” – <https://canadapressfreedom.ca>

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