

Privacy

In This Module

- What is privacy?
- What are some issues surrounding online privacy?

Activity

How would you define privacy?
What does privacy mean to you?

Privacy

*From the Oxford English Dictionary:
Privacy is the state or condition of being free from
being observed or disturbed by other people*

Privacy in the Internet Age

In the internet age, privacy often refers to our personal data and information. With technology rapidly evolving and getting more sophisticated, online privacy issues are of growing importance. Online privacy can involve:

- Having control over how our personal data is collected and used

Privacy and Security

Privacy and security have long been debated. In our current era, this debate has moved to online spaces as well:

- How much privacy are you willing to give up for security, and vice versa?
- How can we maintain people's privacy as well as their information security online?

Activity

What are some issues you see with online privacy?

Share your examples, thoughts, and experiences

Privacy and Pessimism

[Surveys](#) from Pew Research indicate that:

- Americans have concerns about both government data collection and collection done by private companies
- Americans feel like they lack control of their personal data and feel that the risks of data collection outweigh the benefits

Digital Privacy Issues

These are just a few of the major privacy issues that regulators, activists, and others are debating and monitoring:

- Biometrics
- Facial recognition software
- AI and machine learning
- Surveillance drones
- Cell phone and mobile device tracking
- Online behavior tracking

What on this list concerns you? What other issues come to mind for you?

Activity

How can individuals better protect their privacy online?

What can organizations and groups do to advocate for online privacy rights?

Takeaways

- Online privacy is a growing area of concern for many
- Technology is growing increasingly sophisticated and invasive, and more and more of our personal information is out there online
- Taking the time to keep up with and educate yourself about privacy issues can help you make informed decisions about your privacy
- There are many organizations doing work to advocate for better online privacy

Resources

Electronic Frontier Foundation Privacy Guide ([link](#))

Pew Research Center's Internet & Technology Portal ([link](#))

ALA Issues and Advocacy: Privacy ([link](#))

The Privacy Project from *The New York Times* ([link](#))

Questions?

NYC Digital Safety

Privacy & Security