Facebook Security

1. General Account Settings:

   **Email**: Use a different password for the email account used on your Facebook. If a hacker gains access to your email, they can access your Facebook by clicking “Forgot Password,” but this still provides an extra layer of security.

   **Linked Accounts**: Do not link accounts. If someone gains access to your Facebook, they will automatically be logged in to any accounts you link.

   **Password**: Make sure your password is complex, with upper case and lower case letters, numbers, and punctuation. Do not share your password with anyone and change it often.

2. Security Settings

   **Secure Browsing**: Enable secure browsing so that Facebook will use a secure connection (HTTPS) when possible.
**Login Notifications:** You will receive an email every time your account is accessed from a computer or mobile device that you have not saved as a recognized device. And if you add a mobile number to your account (instructions below), you can receive text message alerts when your account is accessed.

After you enable login notifications, you will be prompted after logging in to name the device you are on as secure. Do not save a public computer or device.

**NOTE:** Login notifications will not prevent a hacker from accessing your account, but it will give you notification when someone logs in from a device that you have not saved.

**Login Approvals:** You will have to enter a security code each time you try to access your account from an unrecognized device. A hacker will not be able to access your account without the code, and you will instantly know that someone is trying to access your account.

**NOTE:** To enable login approvals, you might have to disable certain browser settings. (For more information, go to the Facebook Help Center)
To enable login approvals, you must first have a mobile device linked to your account. Make sure not to select the options that will share your number with others. Security codes will be sent to your phone anytime someone tries to log in to your account from an unsaved device.

Recognized Devices: Here you can check what devices are saved on your account. If there are any unrecognized devices listed, remove them immediately.

Active Sessions: Here you can see information on any computer or mobile device that is accessing your account. If there are any sessions open from unrecognized devices or locations, immediately end the sessions.
3. Hacked Account

If you believe your account has been hacked, go to www.facebook.com/hacked to report the incident and regain control of your account. You can change the language at the bottom of the screen.

Viruses: To avoid viruses, do not click on any questionable links, such as those asking you to login or offering free promotions. Do not give your personal information and do not allow applications or games to access your Facebook.

4. Privacy

Understand your privacy settings to know exactly who can view your information. You can customize many of the features of your Facebook profile so they are only visible to certain people. Remember that Facebook regularly changes its privacy policies and default settings. Be sure to check that your settings are up-to-date.

Adding Friends: Think carefully before accepting a friend request. Signs of a suspicious account can include: no profile picture, few friends, and little or no activity. Remember that friends can view personal information about you. (How to control what your friends can see is outlined below).

Lists: Use Facebook “lists” to determine and limit what information you share with certain groups of people. To make or edit lists, from your home page, click “Lists” in the column on the left. To edit an existing list, click on the list name. You may then add friends to the list or change what elements of your profile those on the list can view.
Privacy Settings: Access privacy settings from your Home page. Click the “Editing your Profile” link to control who can view your information.

For each section, select “Friends”, “Only me”, or one of your lists. Go through all sections, from “Basic Information” through “Contact Information” to limit what others can see. To check how your profile looks to others or to the public, click the “View As…” button.

Contact Information: If you put contact information on your Facebook, limit who can view to “Friends” or “Only Me.” It is recommended that you do not put any contact information on your account, so if it is hacked the attacker will not know these details.
**How You Connect:** You can limit how others interact with you. To stay safe, choose “Friends” for most of these.

**How Tags Work:** The settings here allow you to control how others track you on Facebook. The settings recommended here provide maximum privacy and security.
**Status Updates**

When you update your status, be careful that your location is not listed with the post.

If your location is listed, click here to delete the location **BEFORE** posting.

Your location is listed here if you do not delete it before posting.

This is the same post, with and without the location listed. **Make sure to delete your location before posting!**

You can also limit who can see each post. It is recommended that you only let your friends see what you post, and even then do not include your location.
**Activity Log:** If you have updated to the new Facebook Timeline layout, you will have an option at the top right of your profile page to view your Activity Log. This page displays all your posts and activity, from today back to when you created your Facebook account. Only you can see this page, and from it you can adjust the privacy settings of the post and/or hide it from your timeline.

**Resources:**

Information on Facebook's security features can be found here: [https://www.facebook.com/help/?page=132501803490562](https://www.facebook.com/help/?page=132501803490562)
(Help Center -> Report Abuse -> Best Practices -> Opt-In Security Features)

To learn more about making your profile private, go to: [https://www.facebook.com/about/control](https://www.facebook.com/about/control)

To learn more about sharing settings, go to: [https://www.facebook.com/about/sharing/](https://www.facebook.com/about/sharing/)

Further information on activity log is located at: [https://www.facebook.com/help/activitylog](https://www.facebook.com/help/activitylog)

Language can be changed in the dropdown menu or at the bottom of the screen.