

STAY SOCIAL OFF SOCIALS



A NEW LAW IS COMING THAT WILL CHANGE HOW
YOUNG PEOPLE ACCESS SOCIAL MEDIA.

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

What is the new law?

- Starting from 10 December 2025, many social media platforms in Australia must prevent people under 16 from having a social media account.
- The law is not a ban on social media, it's just a change to how old you have to be to sign up and keep/have an account.

Why is it happening?

- The changes aim to reduce the risk from harmful design features that make it hard to switch off from social media. It will help protect the health and wellbeing of young people and give them extra time to develop real world connections and digital literacy skills before they join global platforms.
- As part of the changes, new social norms are being built around social media use, where young people can maintain connections in other ways.

How will it work?

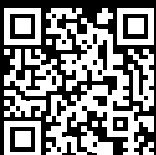
- Once the new law takes effect, platforms should deactivate accounts belonging to anyone under 16.
- They must also take steps to check your age before you can sign up.

What does this all mean?

- If you're under 16, you won't be able to have an account on some social media platforms.
- The new law is intended to capture major platforms like TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook, YouTube, X, and Twitch.
- You'll still be able to stay social in other ways.
- You can use platforms that have the sole or primary purpose of online gaming and messaging.
- You can also use professional and development services, and services that are primarily for education and health support.

What do I need to do?

- Nothing, social media platforms are responsible for making sure they follow the new law. They should deactivate any existing accounts for under-16s and monitor new sign-ups.
- The new law will not eliminate every online risk, and the risks will not simply disappear when a young person turns 16. eSafety will continue to help people of all ages understand how to use online services and platforms as safely as possible and get help if they are harmed.
- You can find information, advice and support at [eSafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au)



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