

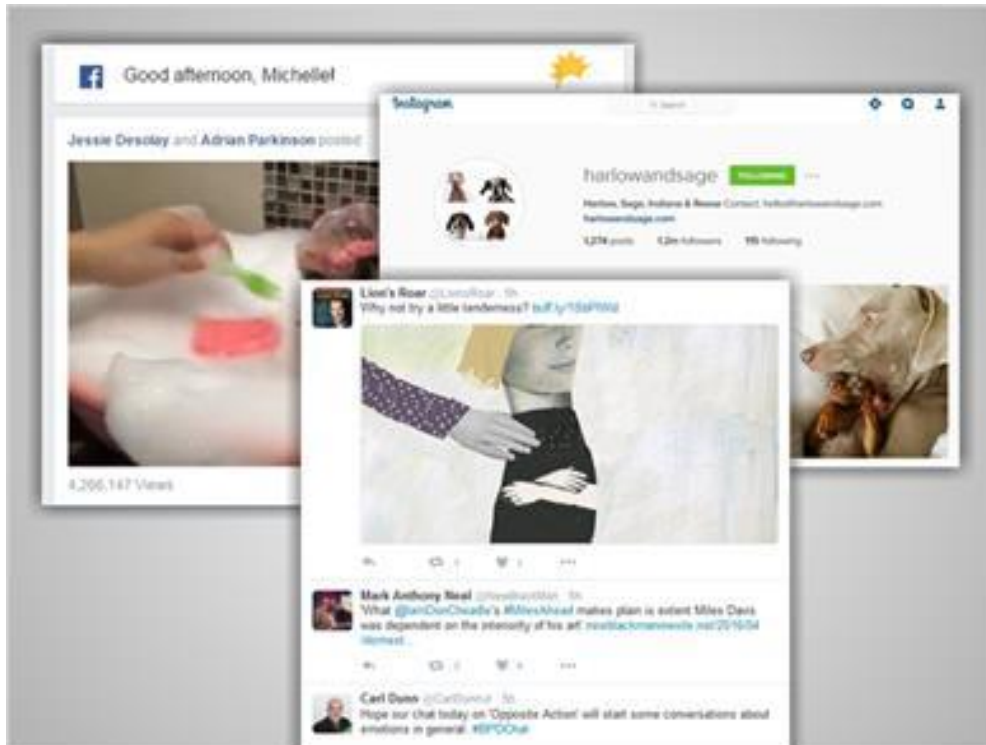
# Privacy on Social Media

---

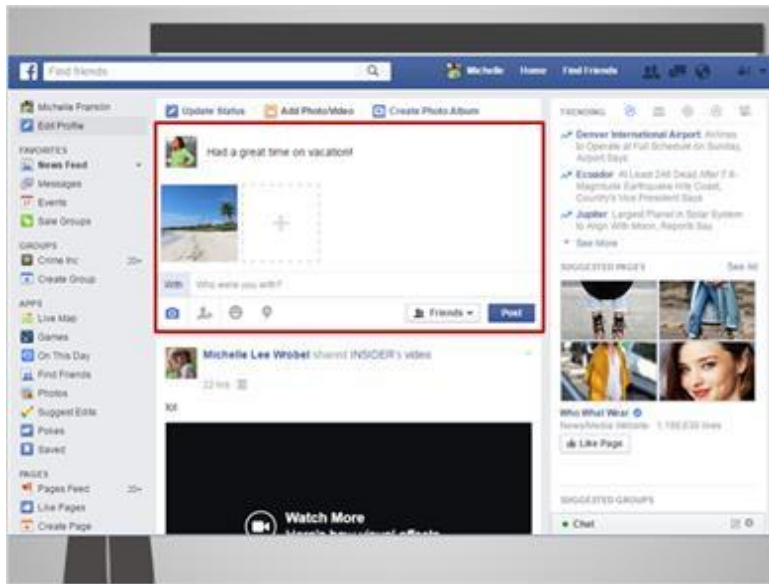


Michelle wants to share some photos online with her family.

**Before she puts them online, it's a good idea to think about who she wants to see them.**



Social media sites like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter are used to share **photos and updates about the things you're doing. They are also used to share opinions, support causes, and share personal details like where you work and where you're from.**



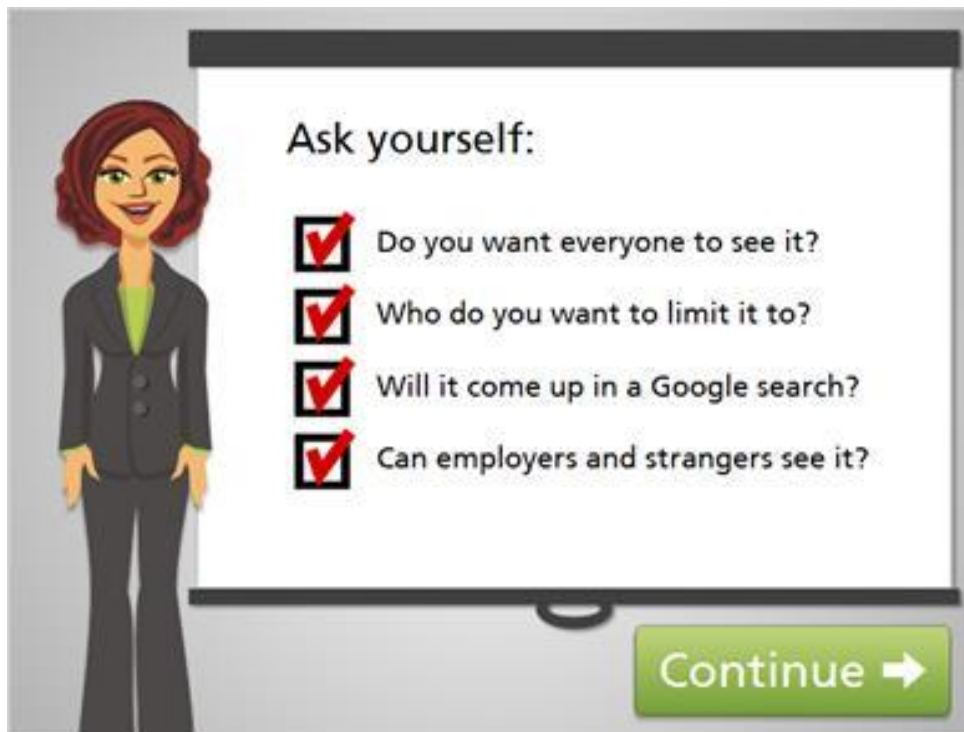
**While it's fun and engaging to share online with family and friends, there are many reasons you may NOT want to share something publicly.**

Once something is shared online, it can be difficult to completely erase if you change your mind later.

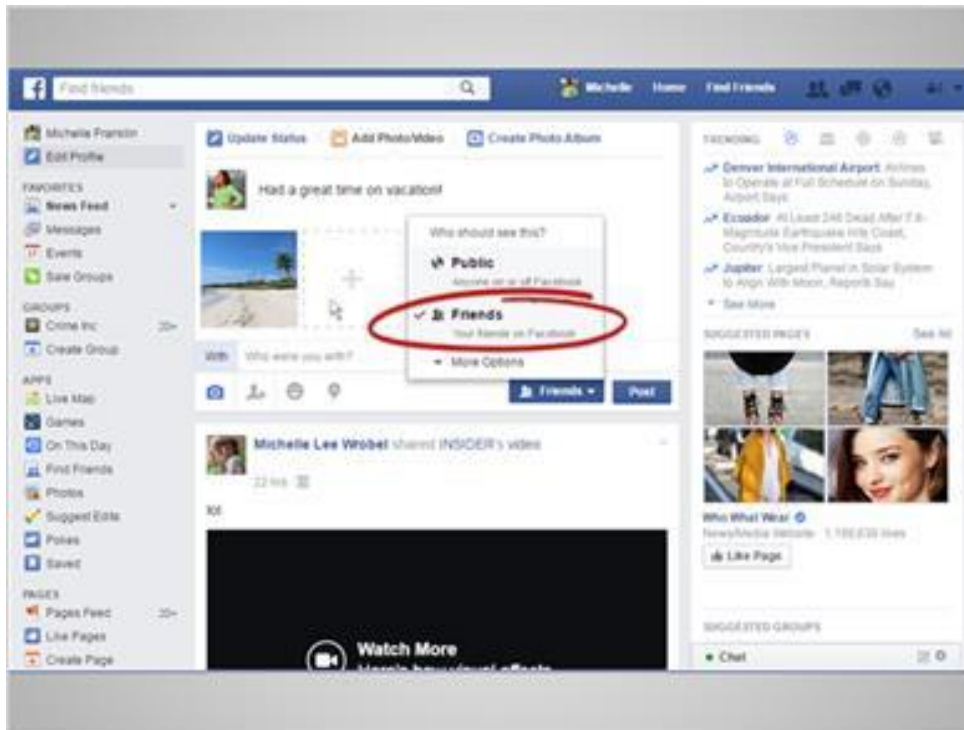
**It's also hard to know exactly who will see your information.** Even if you restrict a posting to a certain group of people, those people might repost the information without your permission. Also, a social network can change its privacy policies at any time, which can alter the privacy of the things **you've shared.**

You may feel like no one would care about your personal posts, but you never know who will be searching for information about you. For example, employers often look at the social media profiles of job applicants when they are making hiring decisions.

**In Michelle's case, she's sharing a photo that she took on vacation.** She wants her close friends and family to see it, but she doesn't want to advertise to everyone that she is out of town.



Before sharing information online, ask yourself these questions:  
Do you want everyone to be able to see this?  
If not, who do you want to limit it to?  
Will it come up if you search for your name on Google?  
Will employers or strangers be able to find it?

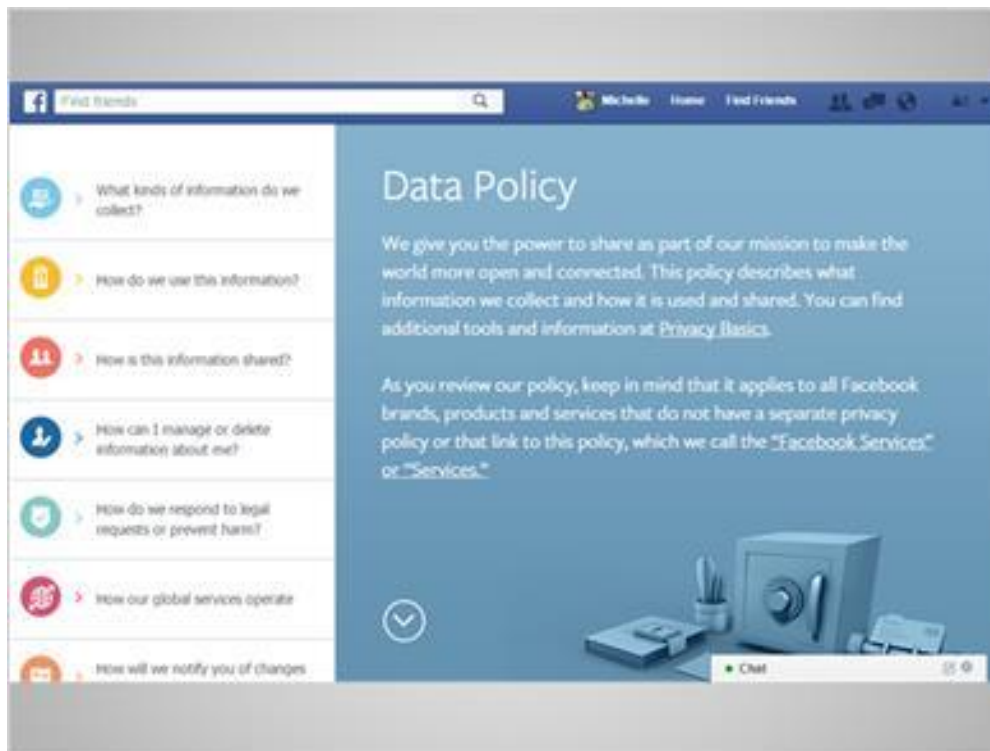


Many websites allow you to send private messages to individuals, or limit posts to particular groups.

In Facebook, you can control your general privacy settings here.

You can also control the privacy for each individual post.

Michelle will limit this **message** to “**Friends**.”



Finally, keep in mind that social networking companies have access to the information you post. Look for a privacy policy on each site to see how your information is being used.

How can we protect privacy on social media?
<b>Learn about the site's privacy policies</b>
Adjust general privacy settings on each site
Adjust privacy settings on each post
Avoid making posts public
All of the above

The correct answer is All of the Above.



Every social networking website offers different settings related to privacy. Be sure to review the privacy settings on any social media networks you use.