

What is Facebook?



[Print](#)

Facebook is probably the best known of the **social networking** sites. Created in 2004, originally as a way for students at Harvard University to get to know each other, it now has almost two billion monthly users with FIVE new profiles being created every second!

Anyone over the age of 13 can use the site and it currently boasts its oldest user at 107 years old. Many parents and grandparents use the site to keep in contact with grandchildren and family around the world.



Users create a free account which is a profile of them in which they share as much or as little information about themselves as they wish. Profiles can be created using a real name (and can include a nickname) and are often accompanied by a photograph.

Key Features

- **Facebook** is free to join and free to use.
- It can be used by anyone wherever they are in the world as long as they have internet access.
- **Facebook** users can share messages, videos links, photographs and websites.
- **Facebook** users can join groups or follow people/hobbies that interest them
- You can search by name or email to find people.
- Users can choose to allow access or deny it.
- Privacy settings can be set to only communicate with people you have agreed to allow access.
- **Facebook** is available 24 hours a day so people can communicate without geographical timelines causing a problem.

Next steps

[Create an event on Facebook](#)

[Using Chat or Messenger on Facebook](#)

[How to set up and run your Facebook page](#)

[How to post to Facebook](#)

[Create an event on Facebook](#)

[How to create a page in Facebook](#)

Search guides

Search

Remote Digital Championing!

Guides covering some tips and techniques for providing remote support to learners, an increasingly important service in times of social isolation.

Find out more

Free how-to guides for your website

Why not add our award-winning and extensive range of digital skills guides to your website?

Find out more

Start a Digital Champion movement!

Could your workplace do with developing its digital skills? With funded membership opportunities currently available, now is the perfect time for organisations to join our Digital Champions Network.

Find out more

Subscribe to our newsletter

Join our mailing list to receive the latest news, offers and expert insights from our team.

First name

Last name

Email address

Submit