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Cybercrime Prevention Flyer

Requesting Social Media Image and Video Removal

Billions of images and videos are posted daily on social media platforms, often without a person's consent or knowledge. This may seem harmless to the individual making the post, but not everyone wants to have their image posted to social media.

Should this happen to someone who does not, what options are available to request the removal of the image or video from social media platforms? Do the major social media companies comply with individual image removal requests?

Foremost, the person whose image is displayed should request the poster to remove the image or video from the social media platform. It's likely the individual who posted the image or video did not request consent. If this approach does not work, there are other options, albeit limited.

FACEBOOK

People who would like to make an image or video removal request to Facebook, operated by Meta, should make the request via the [Report a Privacy Violation](#) page and answer the question about what is being reported, photo, video, or other.

Selecting image or video leads the requester to additional questions to include whose privacy is being violated, the requester's privacy, the requester's child's privacy, or another adult's privacy.

Requester's privacy

- If the requester is over the age of 18 and in the U.S., Facebook may not remove the content and refers individuals to the [Community Standards on privacy violations](#). If outside the U.S., Facebook requests additional information to include country, first and last name, email address, and the URL of the photo or video.
- If the requester is under the age of 18 and in or outside the U.S., Facebook requests the URL to the content, country, first and last name, and email address.

Requester's child's privacy

- If the child is under the age of 13, in or outside the U.S., Facebook requests the URL to the content, country, first and last name of the requester, and email address.
- If the child is 13 or older, regardless of location, the child must file the request.
- If the child is 13 or older and not physically or mentally capable of reporting, regardless of location, Facebook requests the URL to the content, country, first and last name of the requester, and email address.
- For children under the age of 13 and children not physically or mentally capable of reporting, Facebook requires a notarized statement declaring the requester's right to file the report as a parent or guardian.

Another adult's privacy

- Facebook states the person whose privacy is being violated is required to fill out the form.

INSTAGRAM

Also operated by Meta, Instagram shares the same content policies as Facebook but has a separate [Report a Privacy Violation](#) page for people who would like to file an image or video removal request. After selecting the type of content to report, photo or video, the requester must provide a link to the content and identify if it is the requester or a minor appearing in the reported photo or video.

Requestor's privacy

- If the requester is over the age of 18 and in the U.S., Instagram may not remove the content and refers individuals to the [Community Guidelines](#) and [Terms of Use](#). If outside the U.S., Instagram requests additional information to include country, an email address, and a description of how the photo or video is violates the requester's privacy.
- If the requester is under the age of 18, regardless of location, Instagram requests the reporting country, an email address, and a description of the privacy violation.

A minor's privacy

- If the requestor's child is under the age of 13, in or outside the U.S., Instagram requests the reporting country, an email address, and a detailed description of how the content violates the child's privacy.
- If the requestor's child is 13 or older, regardless of location, the child must file the request.
- If the child is 13 or older and physically or mentally unable to file the report, Instagram requests the reporting country, an email address, and a detailed description of how the content violates the child's privacy.

X (FORMERLY TWITTER)

Those who would like to make an image or video removal request to X should make the request via the [Report Private Content Being Posted Page](#). Here the requestor answers the question about who the content being shared belongs to, the requestor, someone the requestor is representing, or someone else. X will then request additional information. If the requestor is representing someone, X also asks for details regarding the relationship to that individual.

After the requestor provides their X username, email address, and electronic signature, X asks what is included in the private content, a link to the content, and any additional details about the reason for reporting. More information about other potential violations can be found on X's [Rules and Policies](#) page.

YOUTUBE

People who wish to request a video or comment removed from YouTube, should follow their [Privacy Complaint Process](#). After submitting the complaint, YouTube will make a privacy violation determination, but may not remove the content.

YouTube prompts the requestor with disclaimers pertaining to the reporting process prior to requesting what personal information is revealed in the content, Image or Full Name, or Other Personal Info.

- Image or Full Name
- YouTube requests required information such as legal name, country, email address, and a link to the channel, video, or comment in question.
- YouTube asks what type of private information is being reported such as the requestors image, legal name or voice, the requestor's child, or other information.
- YouTube also requests where the reported content appears in the video or video's description, and at which point in the video.
- Other Personal Info
- YouTube requests required information such as legal name, country, email address, and a link to the channel, video, or comment in question.

- YouTube requests what private information is being reported and where the reported content appears in the video or video description, and at which point in the video.

When a privacy complaint is filed, the requestor's identity is not revealed to the content's uploader unless permission is provided.

More information on allowed content can be found in YouTube's [Community Guidelines](#) page. Content depicting children under 18 which doesn't violate YouTube's Community Guidelines or [Child Safety Policy](#) may not be removed.

Social media providers will remove content containing private information such as phone numbers, addresses, financial or medical information, nude or intimate imagery, and content displaying child exploitation. For all other image and video removal requests, the ultimate removal decision is in the hands of the social media provider.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[How to Filter, Block, and Report Harmful Content on Social Media](#)

[Removing Sensitive Content from the Internet](#)

[How to Remove My Picture or Video From Someone Else's Account on Facebook](#)

[How to Remove My Picture or Video From Someone Else's Account on Instagram](#)

[How to Remove My Picture or Video From Someone Else's Account on Twitter](#)

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[Cyber Directorate Headquarters](#)

Russell Knox Building
27130 Telegraph Road
Quantico, VA 22134



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