

How to Be a Better Digital Citizen

Fall 2017



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Being a good digital citizen means you are **responsible, conscientious**, and **respectful** of yourself and your peers.

What is digital citizenship?

You are a member of the online community. Like any other community, it's important to uphold its rules and expectations. Then everyone can enjoy the benefits of an open and inclusive digital space!

1

Think before you post.

Make sure you have thought carefully, done all the necessary research, and checked your spelling and grammar before clicking “Submit.”

Be careful what you share.

Remember that once your post is published, it is made public and accessible to everyone in the group!

2

Contribute in a meaningful way.

It’s OK to sit back once in a while and observe from the outside. However, if you have an important point or alternative perspective to offer, make sure you **engage in the conversation!**

In order to keep meaningful discussions going, everyone has to play their part (whether that’s sharing new ideas or giving feedback to existing ones).

3

Treat everyone with equal respect.

This includes respecting people who disagree with you or people who you may not get along with in-person.

Be honest, but always keep your comments **polite and courteous**.

4

Open up your mind.

Be open to learning new things!

Consider new ideas and perspectives, and share those ideas with your peers.

5

Give everyone the credit they deserve.

Sharing different ideas and resources with your peers is wonderful but remember to credit authors and **cite your sources!**

6

Report inappropriate behaviour.

If you see someone posting an inappropriate comment, making someone else uncomfortable, or not meeting the expectations of good digital citizenship, **flag the post**.



7

Lead by example.

Set the example for good digital citizenship by **letting your work speak for itself**: engage in productive conversations, take responsibility for your actions, and acknowledge room for improvement!