



# Twitch

## What is it?

Twitch is a live streaming platform for digital video broadcasts. It is mostly used for live streaming video game play and audience members can interact with streamers and other fans through a chat function to explore a vast library of video games streams.



## What is the age requirement?

Users must be at least 13 years of age to use Twitch. Those between the ages of 13 to 18 must have the consent of a parent or legal guardian.

## Where can I learn more?

[twitch.tv/p/about](https://www.twitch.tv/p/about)  
[twitch.tv/p/legal/community-guidelines](https://www.twitch.tv/p/legal/community-guidelines)

## Reporting/Blocking

Twitch users can block messages and whispers (private messages) from strangers as well as change the levels of content moderation in the chat box. Parents can specify phrases and words that can be blocked from the chat. Twitch also offers reporting and blocking of users who are violating community guidelines and terms of services.

## 3 Things Parents Should Know

1. A major component of Twitch is the chat box during live streams. While these comments are observed by moderators, users may hear offensive language by the streamer or read it in the chat thread. Talk to your teen about how to handle offensive content, and minimize their exposure by utilizing the safety settings.
2. Twitch allows users to follow one another, Direct Message (DM) each other, post on a timeline, post status updates, and more. Users can like, share, or comment on posts that other users have uploaded. Parents should talk to their children about their rules, to set boundaries and expectations for how to interact with others online.
3. Popular Twitch streams allow users to gain extra knowledge of games and strategies for advancing in the storyline, so it is popular among young gamers. Parents can use Twitch as an additional resource for judging the appropriateness of a game - before allowing their child to purchase and play a new title.