Social Networks - Do’s and Don’ts

- Only establish and maintain connections with people you know and trust. Review your connections often.
- Assume that ANYONE can see any information about your activities, personal life, or professional life that you post and share.
- Ensure that your family takes similar precautions with their accounts; their privacy and sharing settings can expose your personal data.
- Avoid posting or tagging images of you or your family that clearly show your face. Select pictures taken at a distance, at an angle, or otherwise concealed. **Never post Smartphone photos and don’t** use your face as a profile photo, instead, use cartoons or avatars.
- Use secure browser settings when possible and monitor your browsing history to ensure that you recognize all access points.

Managing Your Google+ Profile

Google+ provides privacy and sharing options using **Circles**. Circles are groups that users create for different types of connections, such as family, friends, or colleagues. Content is shared only with circles you select. Google+ requires that users provide real names - no pseudonyms.

Profile Settings

Apply and save the **Profile** settings shown below to ensure that your information is visible to only people of your choosing.
## Account Settings & Minimizing Your Activities

Apply the Account settings shown with arrows below to ensure that your information is shared in a limited fashion.

### Google+ Account settings

- **Google+**
  - **Back to Google+**
  - Who can interact with you and your posts
  - Who can send you notifications? Learn more
  - Who can comment on your public posts? Learn more
  - Who can start a Messenger conversation with you?

### Notification delivery

- **Email:** itshike@gmail.com
- **Phone:**
  - *Add phone number*
  - *Push notifications*
  - *Don't notify me*

### Manage email subscriptions

- Occasional updates about Google+ activities and trend suggestions

### Delete Your Google+ Profile

#### Information or Account

- **Useful Links**
  - OnGuard Online: [www.onguardonline.gov/topics/social-networking-sites.aspx](http://www.onguardonline.gov/topics/social-networking-sites.aspx)

### Change to "Off"

- **Don't Add Phone Number**

### Uncheck

- **Remove Everyone**
- **Do not allow contacts to tag you then automatically link to your profile**
- **Disable your circles from accessing your photo tags prior to you**

### By default, Google+ uses your Google contact information to link your accounts from other online services, aggregating your online identity in one location. To disable this feature:

- **Go to Account Settings > Connected Accounts**
- **Click “No” to Google-suggested 3rd-party accounts**
- **Disable Google+ access to your contact information**
- **Do not manually connect other online accounts using Google+**

### Connected accounts

- **Email:**
- **Phone:**
- **Twitter:**
- **Add this link to my public Google Profile, too**
- **Suggested**

### Do not add outside accounts

- **Uncheck**

### Deleting Your Google+ Profile Information or Account

- **Delete Google+ Content** removes Google+ related information such as circles, +1’s, posts, and comments
- **Delete your entire Google profile** removes all user data from Google services, including your Gmail
- **Disable web history** to prevent accumulation of your digital footprint