

Department of Justice Dos and Don'ts

DO:

1. DO use the Internet to help with schoolwork.
2. DO use the Internet to "visit" museums in far away places like The Smithsonian Institution.
3. DO use the Internet to meet children in other countries or to keep in touch with pen pals who live far away in this country or other countries.
4. DO be careful about talking to "strangers" on a computer network. Who are these people anyway? Some people say and do things which are NOT NICE.
5. DO use the Internet to learn more about universities and colleges that you may be interested in attending.
6. DO respect the privacy of other users on the Internet, just as you expect your privacy to be respected. How would you feel if someone read your private e-mail or your grades?
7. DO be careful when you "download" (copy) programs from the Internet. Use a virus scan program before loading it on your computer. Some programs on the Internet contain viruses that can harm your computer.

DON'T:

1. DON'T give your password to anyone.
2. DON'T answer messages that make you feel uncomfortable because they seem improper, indecent, or threatening. TELL A GROWN-UP RIGHT AWAY.
3. DON'T give any personal information, such as your family's address, phone number, credit card or calling card numbers, your school's name, or your picture to anyone on a computer network that you don't personally know.
4. DON'T arrange to meet anyone you've met on the Internet without telling your parents.
5. DON'T try to break into computers. It's not a game. It's a crime and it's an invasion of privacy.
6. DON'T steal copyrighted computer programs ("software") by copying it from the Internet. This is the same as stealing it from a store.
7. DON'T make copies of any copyrighted material, like books, magazines, or music without the permission of the author, publisher or artist.
8. DON'T copy material that you find on the Internet and pretend that it's your own work.