



## For Cubs

### Personal Safety Rules for Online Users

Most Cub Scout–age children are learning to use the Internet for schoolwork and for the many fun things available for children on the Internet. Children need to learn that in addition to many acceptable uses, using the Internet can place them in danger if they don't follow the rules. The NetSmartz Studio, a subsidiary of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, suggests that Cub Scout–age children make the following pledge:

1. I will talk with my parents or guardian so we can set up rules for going online. The rules will include the time of day I may be online, the length of time I may be online, whom I may communicate with while online, and appropriate areas for me to visit while online. I will not break these rules or access other areas without their permission.
2. I will tell a trusted adult if I come across anything that makes me feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused. I will not download anything from anyone without permission from my parents or guardian
3. I will never share personal information such as my address, my telephone number, my parents' or guardian's work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents' or guardian's permission.
4. I will never respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. If I do get a message like that, I will tell a trusted adult right away so he or she can contact the online service. And I will not send those kinds of messages.
5. I will never meet in person with anyone I have first "met" online without checking with my parents or guardian. If my parents or guardian agrees to the meeting, it will be in a public place and my parents or guardian must come along.



## For Scouts

### Personal Protection Rules for Computer Online Services

When you're online, you are in a public place, among thousands of people who are online at the same time. Be safe by following these personal protection rules and you will have fun.

1. Keep online conversations with strangers to public places, not in e-mail.
2. Do not give anyone online your real last name, phone numbers at home or school, your parents' workplaces, or the name or location of your school or home address unless you have your parent's permission first. Never give your password to anyone but a parent or other adult in your family.
3. If someone shows you e-mail with sayings that make you feel uncomfortable, trust your instincts. You are probably right to be wary. Do not respond. Tell a parent what happened.
4. If somebody tells you to keep what's going on between the two of you secret, tell a parent.
5. Be careful who you talk to. Anyone who starts talking about subjects that make you feel uncomfortable is probably an adult posing as a kid.

### "Three R's" of Youth Protection

**Recognize** that anyone could be a child molester and be aware of situations that could lead to abuse.

**Resist** advances made by child molesters to avoid being abused.

**Report** any molestation or attempted molestation to parents or other trusted adults.

6. Pay attention if someone tells you things that don't fit together. One time an online friend will say he or she is 12, and another time will say he or she is 14. That is a warning that this person is lying and may be an adult posing as a kid.
7. Unless you talk to a parent about it first, never talk to anybody by phone if you know that person only online. If someone asks you to call, even if it's collect or a toll-free 800 number, that's a warning. That person can get your phone number this way, either from a phone bill or from caller ID.
8. Never agree to meet someone you have met only online any place off-line, in the real world.
9. Watch out if someone online starts talking about hacking, or breaking onto other people's or companies' computer systems; phreaking (the "ph" sounds like an "f"), the illegal use of long distance services or cellular phones; or viruses, online programs that destroy or damage data when other people download these onto their computers.
10. Promise your parent or an adult family member and yourself that you will honor any rules about how much time you are allowed to spend online and what you do and where you go while you are online.