

LGBTQ2S+ SAFETY ONLINE

Student Counselling, Health & Well-Being

LGBTQ2S+ folks should never have to hide their identity. However, there may be situations in which you choose to keep certain information private in order to stay safe. Here are some tips for staying safe off and online.

USERNAMES

Create usernames which aren't related to your own name (either assigned or chosen).

ALTERNATE ACCOUNTS

If you are closeted, you can use separate accounts when interacting with LGBTQ2S+ spaces online than you normally use.

PRIVACY

If you're concerned about search history showing up on a shared device use a private tab on your browser so it won't save your history.

[Try out this guide.](#)

* This does not completely stop your computer or other applications from collecting data about the sites you visit, but they do stop other people from seeing what sites you're going to.

SHARED SPACES

If you're concerned about being interrupted while you're online (browsing or attending a virtual event), have a separate tab open with homework or a game so you can switch to this window quickly if you're interrupted by someone in your house.

CHANGE YOUR ECLASS NAME

- 1) Once logged onto eClass, click your name in the upper-righthand corner to go to your profile.
- 2) Click the gear icon on the right side and click, "Edit Profile"- There you can edit your first name so it will appear as a chosen name to others.
- 3) Click "Update Profile" at the bottom to make the change.
- 4) If you encounter tech issues, contact [York UIT \(University Information Technology\)](#).

GROUPS OR LISTS

Most social networks have a feature to make messages, posts or groups private. By doing this, you can choose to include people you trust and keep potentially sensitive conversations private.

HIDE THIS SITE

Some websites have an option to 'Hide this site' which will take you away from the site immediately and bring up a general website such as Google homepage.

ZOOM RENAMING

Changing your display name tutorial:

If you're using the desktop Zoom app, here's how:

- 1) When in a Zoom conference, click on the button labeled "Participants" on the bottom of the app's screen. A list of participants will open on the right.
- 2) Hover over your name and click on "More."
- 3) Click on "Rename" and put your preferred name in the pop-up windows. Click on "Rename" and you're done.

If you are using a mobile device:

It's even easier on a mobile device – the locations of the pop-up windows might be different.

- 1) Open your Zoom app and tap on the "Settings" button on the lower right corner.
- 2) Tap on your name.
- 3) To change your name, select "Display Name" and change your name in the pop-up box.

For additional LGBTQ2S+ resources, please visit <https://counselling.students.yorku.ca/lgbtq-resources> or meet with a counsellor for walk-in counselling by calling 416-736-5297 or emailing counselling@glendon.yorku.ca

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