

What is Omegle? What parents need to know



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Omegle, a video-chatting website that pairs random users identified as 'You' and 'Stranger' to chat online via 'Text', 'Video' or both. A user can also choose to add their interests, and Omegle will try to pair a user with someone who has similar interests. If not, you could meet anyone. Chats are anonymous unless the user states who they are, it's free and no account sign up is required.

There appear to be many associated apps such as 'Chat for Omegle', 'Free Omegle Chat', 'Omeglers', but there is no longer an official Omegle app. All sites and apps appear to share the same features and purpose, but only some claim to be affiliated to Omegle and others state that they are not affiliated.

Who uses Omegle?

Omegle has a minimum age rating of 13 years or older with parental permission for under 18s. Omegle is particularly popular in the US, UK, India, and Mexico. It is also extremely popular among children and young people (as young as 7) as a lot of younger influencers come to Omegle from TikTok then share their experiences on TikTok creating a huge surge to the platform. The #omegle hashtag has approximately 5 billion views on TikTok.

Is Omegle safe?

Omegle does not appear to have robust moderation nor is there a registration or age verification making them a potential target for online predators. Its site states "predators have been known to use Omegle, so please be careful."

Children and young people may be asked by strangers to share their name, age, and location. So, it's also important to talk to your child about sharing personal information online with strangers – some guidance is linked below.

Does Omegle have any parental controls?

Although there are prompts to encourage the safe use of the platform, there are no parental control settings on the app. There are no instructions on how a user can report other users or content, even though Omegle's Disclaimer advises that users can. There is also no block or mute feature either nor is there a robust enough system of monitoring or filtering video/text chats.

We strongly advise that this app is not suitable for children.