

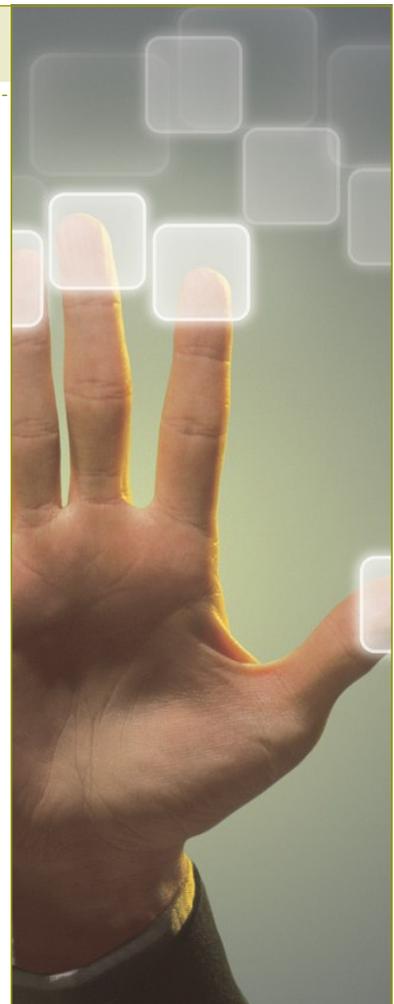


Understanding the Limitations of Detecting Information Due to...

FACEBOOK PRIVACY SETTINGS

When people adjust their privacy settings, there are some preset options. Understanding these Facebook privacy levels can help ensure that you are appropriately comprehending search results. There are six levels of privacy settings that can be chosen; here is a breakdown of what each one means:

1. **Everyone:** "Everyone" is the most public of Facebook's privacy levels. Everyone can see information set at this level - friends or total strangers. People who want to be found on Facebook often set their profile visible to "Everyone." While others wishing to keep a low profile will avoid this setting.
2. **Friends of Friends:** "Friends of Friends" is the next most-inclusive privacy level, after "Everyone." Not only can people added to a friends list see information posted, but everyone that each of those friends has friended can as well. Since you have no control over whom your friends add, you lose control over who sees the information you post.
3. **Friends:** The Facebook privacy level "Friends" allows people to show information only to those added to their friends list.
4. **Some Friends:** The "Some Friends" privacy level lets individuals determine the extent of what each person on their Friends List can see.
5. **Only Me:** "Only Me" is the highest privacy level on Facebook. Only the account owner will be able to see the information posted.
6. **Custom:** Using the custom option, you can select specific friends (or lists) to show or hide posted information.



BEHIND THE NEWSLETTER

Many state employees and agencies request access to social media

sites (usually Facebook) for legitimate, work-related tasks. The Office of Information Security and Controls maintains the filtering on the State network and is ultimately the group that removes the block on verified requests. However, a few of the emails we receive make us believe that some users do not truly understand how Facebook security works. Just because you have access to the site, does not mean you'll find what you're searching for.

FACEBOOK WILL...

...work with law enforcement where appropriate and to the extent required by law to ensure the safety of the people who use Facebook. We may disclose information pursuant to subpoenas, court orders, or other requests (including criminal and civil matters) if we have a good faith belief that the response is required by law.”

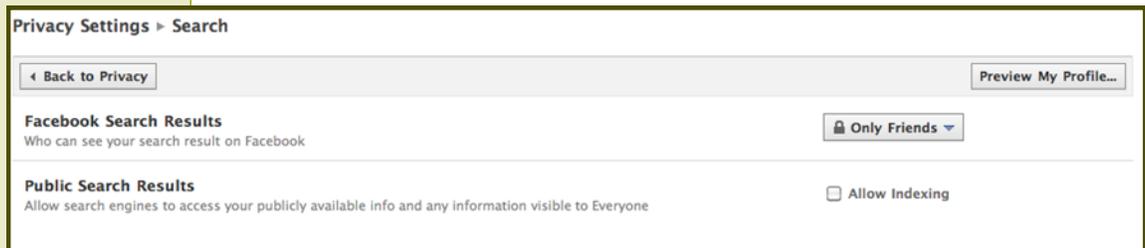
Source: [Facebook](#)

EVASIVE METHODS

Many people do not want to be found on Facebook – for personal or legal reasons.

- **Disable Facebook Search Results.** If a user has disabled this setting, their name will NOT appear in the search results. It will appear as if the person does not have a Facebook account.

Example: A Facebook account was supposed to be disabled, by court order. The owner of that account disables the setting for “search results” and it appears as if the account was disabled, but in reality it was merely hidden.



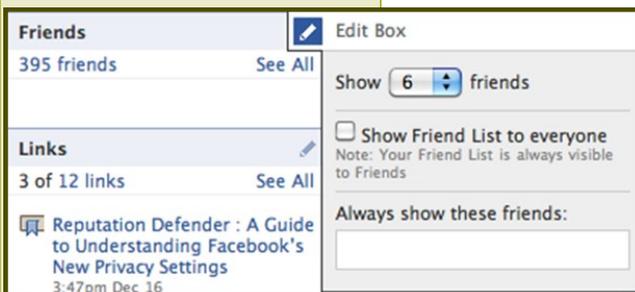
- **Hide/Modify the Friends List.** An individual can choose who to show or not show on the List.

Example: Many parents are “friends” with their children to keep track of what they’re doing on Facebook. The child has the ability to hide all pictures, posts and friends from their parents.

- If an individual wants to make sure **nobody can see their Friends List**, they make sure to uncheck the box marked “Show Friend List to Everyone.” By unchecking the box, they prevent anyone besides their friends from seeing who they are connected with on Facebook.

Example: A court order is issued that two minors may not communicate. They can make it appear to everyone except each other, that they are no longer “friends.”

- **Block lists:** This section lets people block others from interacting with them or seeing their information on Facebook.



*Unless you have access to a Facebook account with the username and password, there is no way to 100% verify information about an individual. If a search on Facebook needs to be conducted on a court-issued legal matter, contact **Facebook directly**.*