
 WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW

What is Roblox?

Roblox is an online platform where players create and enter into user-generated 3D worlds. It is possible to play for free, but the game has a currency called Robux. Players use Robux to buy games, clothing, or accessories.

Why should you be vigilant?

Even though this is a fun game based on creating, you can unfortunately easily stumble upon:

- graphic sexual content;
- violence, and blood;
- and the use of weapons.

The hidden dangers of Roblox

An obvious worry is inappropriate language in the chats. The more hidden worries are alarming:

- Sexual acts played out in some rooms.
- Children are encouraged to spend money.
- Children are invited to earn money in exchange for pictures.
- Sexual predators lurk in some spaces.
- Cyberstalking

Recommendations for primary school children

- **Use your personal email address** when you sign your child up;
- **Note your child's login information;**
- **A responsible adult should be nearby** when your child is playing, preferably in a common area of the house, such as the living room or kitchen;
- **Monitor the chat;**
- **Enable Parental Controls** to limit access to certain games on the platform that may include inappropriate, violent or sexual content;
- **Beware of content associated with Roblox on YouTube.** It may be very inappropriate;
- **Talk about Roblox with your child.** Speak specifically about digital safety, cyberstalking, predators, speaking kindly to other players etc.;
- **Let your child know to come to you** if he or she feels uncomfortable about something he or she has seen or heard.

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During my workshops, some children report their experiences.

What kids want you to know?

Kids tell us that:

- most people are nice;
- It is easy to block people who aren't;
- there are a lot of friendly games;
- the chat turns bad words into ##### so we don't see them.

What kids don't want you to know?

Kids also tell us that:

- there are naked rooms;
- they have been sent inappropriate links;
- they have seen sex positions played out;
- people have asked creepy things.

Roblox Parental Control Setup

In order to keep your child safe while playing Roblox, it is important to set up parental controls:

- **Open the Roblox application on your child's device;**
- **Click the Settings menu;**
- **Set "privacy" and "parental controls".**

Blocking features

It is possible to block users in the chat:

- Click on the three dots in the upper right corner of the player profile;
- **Select "Block".**

You can also disable the chat completely or report inappropriate behavior.



Preferably, ask your child to come to you if he or she encounters a problem so that you can report it together. Let your child know you will **NOT take the game away**, rather block the person and discuss **why** this was inappropriate. **The number one reason children do not report is fear of parents reactions.**