

The Social Media Dictionary

FACEBOOK TERMS

Accessibility: Accessibility features and technologies help people with disabilities get the most out of Facebook. Learn more about [accessibility on Facebook](#).

Account settings: Use your [Settings](#) to manage basic account preferences. You can edit your name or email info, change your notifications preferences, turn on extra security features and more. [Learn more](#).

Activity log: Your activity log is a tool that lets you review and manages everything you share on Facebook. Only you can see your activity log. [Learn more](#).

Admin: Admins are people who create and manage activity in groups. Learn more about [group admins](#).

Adware: Adware is software that automatically downloads and displays ads on your screen. [Learn more](#).

Audience selector: The audience selector lets you [select an audience](#) for what you share. [Learn more](#)

Badge: A badge is a box you can create to share your Facebook Timeline, photos or Page on other websites. [Learn more](#).

Block: You can [block someone](#) to unfriend them and prevent them from starting conversations with you or seeing things you post on your Timeline. Blocked can also mean that Facebook has [temporarily restricted you](#) from using a specific feature or multiple features, but you can still access your account.

Chat: Chat is a feature that lets you send instant messages to your friends. [Learn more](#).

Cover photo: Your cover photo is the large picture at the top of your [Timeline](#), right above your [profile picture](#). [Learn more](#).

Event: Events is a feature that lets you organize gatherings, respond to invites and keep up with what your friends are doing. [Learn how to create events](#).

Facebook Exporter for iPhoto: We originally built **Facebook Exporter for iPhoto** to make it easy to upload your iPhoto pictures to Facebook. Now, iPhoto has its own uploader built into some versions of the app. If you have iPhoto '11 or newer, you don't need to download the Facebook plug-in, you can use the one that comes with iPhoto.

Facebook Questions: Facebook Questions is a feature that lets you get recommendations, conduct polls and learn from other people in your events and groups. [Learn more.](#)

Family Safety Center: Our [Family Safety Center](#) contains information, tools and resources to help you stay safe online. It includes special sections for parents, teachers, teenagers and members of law enforcement.

Feature phone: Feature phones are phones with more limited capabilities than [smartphones](#). If you have a feature phone, you can access Facebook with [Facebook for Every Phone](#) or through your [mobile browser](#). If you're not sure whether you have a feature phone or a smartphone, contact your mobile carrier.

Follow: Follow is a way to hear from people you're interested in, even if you're not friends. The Follow button is also a way to fine-tune your News Feed to get the types of updates you want to see. [Learn more.](#)

Friend: Friends are people you connect and share with on Facebook. [Learn more.](#)

Friendship page: Friendship pages show a collection of stories and interactions between two people connected on Facebook. [Learn more.](#)

Games and apps: The games and apps you use on Facebook are created by outside developers on the Facebook platform. [Learn more.](#)

Groups: Groups are private spaces where you can keep in touch with people by sharing updates, photos or documents. [Learn more.](#)

Instant personalization: Instant personalization allows you to have a more personal experience in apps on Facebook and on third-party websites by letting you bring your friends and interests with you when you visit. [Learn more.](#)

Intellectual property: Intellectual property refers to content that may be protected by legal rights such as copyright or trademark rights. [Learn more.](#)

Life event: The **Life Event** option lets you add experiences from the different parts of your life to your Timeline. Life Events are divided into categories (ex: **Work & Education, Family & Relationships**), and you can use them to share many different kinds of important moments, from an engagement or trip to a new baby or home.

Unlike other stories, life events will automatically be [starred on your Timeline](#). They are also **public** by default, but you can adjust the audience at any time using the [audience selector](#). [Learn how to add your life events](#).

Like: Clicking **Like** is a way to give positive feedback and connect with things you care about. [Learn more](#).

Link: You can share a link from the web on Facebook. [Learn more](#).

Lists: Lists are an optional way to organize your [friends](#) on Facebook. [Learn more](#).

Login approvals: Login approvals are an extra security feature similar to [login notifications](#), but with an extra security step. If you turn on login approvals, you'll be asked to enter a special login code each time you try to access your Facebook account from a new computer or mobile phone. [Learn more](#).

Login notifications: Login notifications are an extra security feature. When you turn on login notifications, we'll send you an alert each time someone logs into your account from a new place. [Learn more](#).

Malware: Malware is malicious software that tries to interrupt the operations of your computer or gain access to information. Learn how to [keep your account secure](#).

Messages: Your messages and messages inbox house your ongoing conversations with people on Facebook. [Learn more](#).

Mobile: You can update your status, browse your [News Feed](#) and view friends' [Timelines](#) all from your mobile phone. [Learn more](#).

Mobile texts: You can receive and respond to notifications through text messages (SMS) on your phone. [Learn more](#).

Mobile web browser: A mobile browser is an app on your phone that lets you browse Facebook on the web at m.facebook.com. The mobile browser is usually installed on a phone when you buy it, and it isn't an app you download. Examples of web browsers include Safari, Firefox and Internet Explorer.

Networks: Networks are affiliations with schools or workplaces on Facebook.

News Feed: Your News Feed is an ongoing list of updates on your homepage that shows you what's new with the friends and [Pages](#) you follow. [Learn more](#).

Notes: Notes is a feature that lets you publish what's on your mind in a full rich format. [Learn more.](#)

Notifications: Notifications are updates about activity on Facebook. [Learn more.](#)

Page: Pages allow businesses, brands and celebrities to connect with people on Facebook. Admins can post information and [News Feed](#) updates to people who [like](#) their pages. [Learn more.](#)

Password: Your password is a series of letters, symbols and numbers you use to log into your account. Learn more about [logging in](#) and how to create a [strong password](#).

Phishing: Phishing is a way for spammers to get your personal information. They often do this by creating fake pages that ask you to provide your email address and password. [Learn more.](#)

Photos: Photos is a feature that lets you share images and tag the people in them. [Learn more.](#)

Places: You can share where you are with your [friends](#) by checking into places. You can also find friends nearby. [Learn more.](#)

Poke: You can poke someone to get their attention or say hello. [Learn more.](#)

Privacy Policy: The [Privacy Policy](#) (also known as the Data Use Policy) outlines the information we receive and how we use it.

Privacy settings: Your [privacy settings](#) let you manage basic privacy preferences. For other stuff you share on Facebook, you can [choose your audience](#) right when you post. [Learn more.](#)

Profile: On Facebook, your profile is your Timeline. [Learn more.](#)

Profile picture: Your profile picture is the main photo of you on your Timeline. Your profile picture appears as a thumbnail next to your comments and other activity on Facebook. [Learn more.](#)

Search: Search is a tool to find people and content on Facebook. [Learn more.](#)

A security question helps you verify you own your account in case you ever lose access to it. [Learn more.](#)

Smartphone: Smartphones have advanced functionality and are able to perform many of the tasks a computer can. Common smartphones include iPhones and those running the Android operating system. If you're unsure whether your phone is a smartphone or a [feature phone](#), contact your mobile carrier.

Social plugins: Social plugins are tools that other websites can use to provide people with personalized and social experiences. When you interact with social plugins, you [share your experiences](#) off Facebook with your friends on Facebook. [Learn more.](#)

Spam: Spam can involve contacting people with unwanted content or requests. This includes sending bulk messages, excessively posting links or images to people's Timelines and sending friend requests to people you don't know personally. Spamming is a violation of Facebook's [Community Standards](#).

Tag review: Tag Review is a tool that lets you approve or reject tags that friends add to your posts. [Learn more.](#)

Tagging: A tag links a person, [Page](#) or [place](#) to something you post, like a status update or a photo. For example, you can tag a photo to say who's in the photo or post a status update and say who you're with. [Learn more.](#)

Ticker: Ticker, on the right side of your home page, lets you see all your friends' activity in real time. [Learn more.](#)

Timeline: Your Timeline, which we sometimes refer to as your profile, is your collection of the photos, stories and experiences that tell your story. [Learn more.](#)

Timeline review: Timeline review is a tool that lets you approve or reject posts that you've been tagged in before they go on your Timeline. [Learn more.](#)

Top story: Your top stories are stories published since you last checked News Feed that we think you'll find interesting. They may be different depending on how long it's been since you last visited your News Feed.

Trademark: A trademark is a word, slogan, symbol or design (ex: brand name or logo) that identifies and distinguishes the products or services offered by one party from those offered by others. [Learn more.](#)

Trending: Trending shows you the popular topics and hashtags that are being talked about on Facebook. You'll see stories from people and Pages who've shared them with you or have shared them as [Public](#). From the right side of your homepage, click a topic that's trending to see what people are saying about it.



Note: Trending isn't available to everyone right now.

Typeahead: A typeahead is a dropdown menu that appears when you're searching for something. It guesses what you're searching for so you can find it faster. If you see what you're looking for in the typeahead, click on it to save time. If you don't see what you're looking for, click **See more results**. [Learn more about search](#).

Video: Upload short videos to share your experiences. [Learn more](#).

Video calling: Video calling is a feature that lets you to talk to your [friends](#) face to face. [Learn more](#).

GOOGLE+ TERMS

Profile: These are real people, personal profiles. They are a bit like your blog, your central page – but you decide ‘who’ sees ‘what’ content (depending on who you have shared it with)

Page: These are for businesses, groups, interests or for entertainment purposes. Pages have a small square next to a person’s name. You must create a personal profile first to start a page.

Post: This is a message you send out. It may in the form of an image/link/video etc.

Shares: These are when people spread a post through the Googleverse

Googleverse: Where all the action happens

Commoogling: the refreshing culture of collaboration! **Circles:** These are central to Google Plus. There are ways of differentiating groups of people into ‘circles’ of similar passions/interests/locations/etc. You can then look to share different content with different circles. To be able to share a Circle, it must contain 500 or fewer people.

Extended Circles: This is most relevant when sharing posts and doing Hangouts. Extended Circles consist of everyone in your Circles, plus everybody in their Circles.

Getting Circled: This is when someone puts you into a Circle.

+1 button: This is method of 'positive reinforcement' on Google. It says everything from 'I have seen it', 'I like it' etc

+1 and Share buttons: You may find the +1 button combined with a Share function. You will then be able to whom to share i.e. public/circles/emails.

Stream: This is the flow of posts from your Circles. You may view "All" Circles at once, or individual Circles. You can control the quantity of posts from individual Circles that end up in your "All" stream.

The Home Stream: Another name for the "All" stream.

Circle Streams: Viewing the stream of an individual Circle.

Unplugging from the stream: This is when you don't plug into the Google+ community for a while and wonder if you are missing a vital organ...

Blocking: Sending someone to the naughty corner, possibly permanently. This prevents someone from seeing or commenting on any of your posts, plus whatever profile information you don't have set to public. You also have the option of reporting users to Google for various infringements.

Mute: This prevents people from sending you notifications. Some people have a bad habit of notifying strangers of all of their posts without asking first if it's okay to send a notification. You are still able to interact with people even when they're muted and their posts will still be present in your Stream.

Hangouts: Possibly Google+'s best feature! Real time video conferences that are just like people hanging out on the porch. Up to 10 devices for normal folks; 15 for Google Enterprise clients.

Hangouts On Air: Basically, your own personal TV station. You can choose to make a Hangout "On Air" which means it is recorded and broadcast live on YouTube! On Air Hangouts also have Studio Mode available, which gives you high quality stereo sound.

Googleverse: Where all the action happens. A collective term describing all Google services where interaction happens.

HIRLs: Hangouts in Real Life i.e. you meet the people and get to eat drink or whatever you would do with your friends.

Ping: Getting someone's attention on Google+ by +mentioning them.

+Mention: inserting someone's name in a post or comment by first typing the + symbol. This alerts the person to the post and provides a link to their profile, like such: +martin shervington

Caturday: A weekly holiday where Google+ users posts pictures of cats and cat memes.

Star Wars Tuesday: One of the most important weekly events where the Googiverse conspires to create a fun and harmonious galaxy by sending out Star Wars images.

Hashtags: Like Twitter, you can use #hashtags to apply a topic to your posts and make them searchable by that #hashtag. Be sure not to spam unrelated hashtags just to get attention!

Hashtag Trending: When a particular #hashtag is used by many people at once. You'll see the trending hashtags on your home stream page.

A googillion: An extremely large number, a bit like what happens for some people if they leave you notifications too long without checking them.

Verified Account: For popular figures, to decrease the possibility of fake, imposter profiles, Google chooses to verify certain accounts. When verified, you get a check mark next to your name and your own vanity URL to replace your profile ID #. Your account is still accessible by profile number, so you don't have to change any links.

Your Google+ ID: This is the 21 digit code you find within your profile URL.

Vanity URL: This when you have a +yourname as your Google ID - See more at:

<http://www.martinshervington.com/google-glossary-of-terms/#sthash.WE1TK4YW.dpuf>

INSTAGRAM TERMS

#love: the most posted hashtag

#selfie: a photo of one's self

#instagood: something good or favorable

#instabad: something bad or unfavorable

#potd or #photooftheday: picture of the day

#ootd: outfit of the day

#picstitch: a photo collage

#simulgram: simultaneous Instagram post with another user (e.i. posting the same thing or posting a picture of one another at the same time)

#tbt: throwback Thursday (e.i. baby photos/ old photos)

#fbf: flashback Friday (same idea as throwback Thursday)

#lger: Instagrammers

#Nomnom: is the sound we make when we are eating, indicating a pleasurable food experience

#Skyporn: a beautiful shot of the sky

#TagsForLikes: this hashtag tells other users that if they tag you on one of their photos you will like that photo for them

#TFLers: Tag for likers, (e.i. people who tag for likes)

#tweegram: A photo of words or verse, like a "tweet"

#amazing

#followme or **#follow4follow** ----- this hashtag encourages users to follow you because you promise to follow them back

#like4like: this hashtag encourages users to like your photo because they will in turn like one of your photos

#r4r: this hashtag encourages users to like your most recent photo because you promise to in turn like their most recent photo

#look

#instalike

#food

#instadaily: daily instagram updates/ photos

#instafollow: you will follow back instantly

#like

#girl

#iphoneonly: this hashtag tells users your photo was taken on an iPhone

#bestoftheday: best photo or moment of the day

#instacool

#instago: “go” or a must-do event

#colorful

#style

#swag: and/or style

LINKEDIN TERMS

Connection: The people you invite or invite you. When you “accept” to form a connection with someone you form a first level relationship with them in your LinkedIn network.

Second-degree connections: Second-degree connections are the connections of your connections. For example, I’m connected to my friend Jane. Jane’s boss is George; therefore George is my second-degree connection.

Third-degree connections: Third-degree connections are the connections of my second-degree connections. So from the example above, George’s connections are my third-degree connections.

Degrees: A second degree connection means it is a friend of a friend, you are separated by two degrees. Three degrees away is someone you can reach through a friend of a friend and one of their connections.

Inbox: This is where you can check personal messages sent to you by other LinkedIn members.

Introduction: Introductions are requests made to other LinkedIn members that you do not have a direct connection with. It is as it sounds, a way to introduce yourself to someone you do not necessarily know. LinkedIn limits the number of introductions you can have pending at one time.

Invitation: This is what you send when you ask someone to connect with you. You invite them to join your network.

Groups: Groups are exactly as they sound. They are groups of other LinkedIn users. Groups can be used as discussions or forums for people to connect or get advice and job postings.

Network: Your network is the group of your connections, you are the center of your network. It can also include the connections of your connections.

Profile: This is the page you control. It holds your picture and credentials. You have the ability to post job history and upload a resume. This is what others see when they click on your link.

Recommendation: This is a request you can send out to have another LinkedIn member. If they agree, they will then write a short paragraph recommending you. This is visible to anyone who views your profile.

PINTEREST TERMS

Pin (pinned or pinning): An image added to Pinterest. Users add pins to their boards by using the Pin It bookmark button. Pinterest users link to the images or upload them from their computer. When clicked, every panel links back to its original source.

Comment: By leaving a comment, the pinned image will neither be repinned onto your Pinterest account nor be archived under your Likes list.

Board: A virtual pin board where you can archive and organize your pinned images according to their category. You can post as many pins as you want to your boards.

Follow: Subscribing to a user's pins or boards. You can pick and choose which boards to follow, or you can select Following All to follow a user's entire history. You can also "unfollow" boards or users at any time, and not worry about hurting their feelings because they aren't notified.

Like: Liking adds the pin to your profile's Likes section and the pin is not posted to any of your boards. Liking versus Repining: Repining an image pins it to one of your boards and you can also edit description of the repin.

Pinning: The Act of placing an image on a board.

Pinner: Someone who does the sharing.

Repin: The act of reposting someone else's image to one of your boards. Repins are what makes Pinterest viral potential possible. The user who pinned the image first will still get credit for it and repins still link back to the source.

TUMBLR TERMS

;alksjdf;lksfd: An expression of pure excitement. The implication here is that the Tumblr user is so bowled over by an event that he or she can't even form words.

4chumbler: A term that refers to the assumed romantic relationship between personified versions of Tumblr and 4Chan ([yes, really](#)). Usually depicted through fan art, Tumblr is a female hipster and 4chan is a faceless green man in a business suit.

BAMF: Pardon our language, but this term stands for badass motherf*cker, though Tumblr users more frequently use the term sarcastically.

Creamsicle: This refers to an assumed romantic relationship between "other girls" and "real girls," two caricatures designed to parody the difference between girls that use Tumblr and Facebook. While the image appears to make "real girls" who use Tumblr seem better than "other girls" who use Facebook, Tumblr users turned the conceit on its head by making an image meant to parody girls pitted against each other into an [expression of lesbian love](#).

GPOY: Short for Gratuitous Picture of Yourself, but its meaning has extended far beyond actual photos of the user. This term often coincides with a photo or GIF of anything that relates to his or her current mood. Even a [cartoon might be used](#) if it fits with the user's opinions or feelings.

hnnng: The term used when a user encounters something or someone he or she finds very, very desirable.

Homestuck: The fourth and most popular [webcomic](#) posted on a site called MS Paint Adventures. The story follows the adventures of dozens of teenage humans and trolls in an interactive and sometimes Flash-animated format. The comic, which can update up to 10 times a day, has amassed an enormous fan following in its two years of existence.

I can't even: Similar to ;alksjdf;lksfd, this is an expression that denotes so many emotional responses to news, the user can't process it. Variations include "I can't" and "I just can't."

I'm dying: This can be short for "I'm dying of laughter." But, just like I can't even, the expression could fit any strong emotional response.

I know that feel: Based on an [Eastern European image macro](#) that depicts a poorly drawn man relating to different events, it's a mistranslation of "I understand that feeling." This and other mistranslations ("all the feels," or just "that feel") refer to understanding emotions. Here's one [example](#).

Life ruiner: A term used for celebrities and other idolized objects of fan affection. The idea is that the more fans learn about the idol, the more perfect they become in their eyes and the more down they feel about not being able to pursue a relationship with him or her.

Missing E: A helpful but controversial Tumblr plugin. On the plus side, the plugin provides features Tumblr is lacking. On the negative, Tumblr refuses to provide technical support to users who install the plugin and claims officially that the plugin is dangerous.

OTP: One True Pairing. Commonly refers to the user's favorite romantic combination of characters in a fandom. For example, one user's OTP might be Ariel and Prince Eric in *The Little Mermaid*, while another might prefer Prince Eric and Ursula.

Pro-ana: Short for the promotion of eating disorders like anorexia nervosa. A pro-ana Tumblr user might post pictures of dangerously thin people and promote them as the ideal. Tumblr earlier this year, but they still pop up occasionally.

ship: Short for "relationship." May refer to a user's OTP or just a romantic pairing in general.

SMH: "Shaking My Head," a term used in disapproval.

Tumblarity: A since-retired Tumblr feature that depicted user follower counts, post numbers, top likes, and reblogs. It caused critics to say Tumblr had become "a popularity contest." Today, all these statistics are invisible to followers except numbers of likes and reblogs.

What is air?: Like ;alksjdf;lksfd, I'm dying, and I can't even, this can refer to a user laughing so hard that he or she can't even breathe.

TWITTER TERMS

#: See "Hashtags" [Read "What are Hashtags?"](#)

@: The @ sign is used to call out usernames in Tweets, like this: Hello @Twitter! When a username is preceded by the @ sign, it becomes a link to a Twitter profile. See also Replies and Mentions. [Read more about replies and mentions.](#)

Activity: Lives in the **Notifications** tab. Activity is a real-time dashboard to view what the people you're following are up to on Twitter. You can view Tweets they've favorited and discover other good content on Twitter.

Algorithm: A computational procedure for solving a problem in a finite number of steps. Used frequently on Twitter to determine most popular Tweets and trends. [Read more about trends.](#)

API: An Application Programming Interface. Contains all Twitter data and is used to build applications that access Twitter much like our website does. [Read more about API security.](#)

Application (third-party): A third-party application is a product created by a company other than Twitter that's used to access Tweets and other Twitter data. [Read about how to get help with a third-party application.](#)

Avatar: See Profile photo.

Bio: A short personal description of 160 characters or fewer used to define who you are on Twitter. [Read about how to change your bio.](#)

Blocking: [Find out how to block others.](#)

Buttons: Twitter buttons are available in the Resources tab of your account, and are used to link to Twitter from other webpages. [Read about how to link to your Twitter profile from another site.](#)

Cache: A collection of stored data on your computer containing information that may be required in the future and can be accessed rapidly. Learn how to clear your cache [here.](#)

Connections: The Applications tab in your Twitter settings shows all third-party websites and applications to which you've granted access your public Twitter profile. Revoke access at any time. [Learn how to connect to third party apps and websites.](#)

Deactivation: A way to remove your profile from Twitter. Information from deactivated profiles remains in our system for 30 days. [Learn how to deactivate your account.](#)

Developers: Engineers who don't work for Twitter, but who use Twitter's open-source API to build third-party applications.

Direct message: Also called a DM and most recently called simply a "message," these Tweets are private between the sender and recipient. Tweets sent over SMS become DMs when they begin with "d username" to specify who the message is for. [Learn more about direct messages.](#)

Discover: The Discover tab is where you'd find top Tweets, Who to Follow, Activity, Find Friends, and Browse Categories. The Discover tab is all about, you guessed it, discovering new and engaging things to do on Twitter!

DM: See Direct Message.

Email notifications: Preferences set by Twitter users to regulate notifications via email about events on your account, such as new followers and new direct messages. [Read about how to change your email preferences.](#)

Favorite: To favorite a Tweet means to mark it as one of your favorites by clicking the yellow star next to the message. You can also favorite via SMS. [Read more about favorites.](#)

FF: #FF stands for "Follow Friday." Twitter users often suggest who others should follow on Fridays by tweeting with the hashtag #FF.

Follow: To follow someone on Twitter is to subscribe to their Tweets or updates on the site. Find out [more about following](#), or learn [how to follow others](#).

Follow count: The numbers that reflect how many people you follow, and how many people follow you. Found on your Twitter Profile. [Read more about following.](#)

Follower: A follower is another Twitter user who has followed you. Find out [more about following](#), or learn [how to follow others](#).

Following: Your following number reflects the quantity of other Twitter users you have chosen to follow on the site. [Find out more about following.](#)

Geolocation / Geotagging: The use of location data in Tweets to tell us where you are in real time. Is also called "Tweet With Your Location." [Learn how to safely Tweet with your location.](#)

GFF (Get Followers Fast): Sites that promise to get you more followers if you provide your username and password. After signing up, these sites send spam from your account. Don't use them.

Hacked: See Hacking.

Hacking: Gaining unauthorized access to an account via phishing, password guessing, or session stealing. Usually this is followed by unauthorized posts from the account. Users often use the word "hacking" for many things that are not hacking. [Click here](#) if you think you've been hacked. Read more about [how to keep your account safe](#).

Handle: A user's "Twitter handle" is the username they have selected and the accompanying URL, like so: <http://twitter.com/username>. [Find out how to change your username.](#)

Hashtag: The # symbol is used to mark keywords or topics in a Tweet. It was created organically by Twitter users. [Read more about hashtags.](#)

Home: A real-time list of Tweets from those you follow. It appears on your Twitter home page. [Find out more about your timeline.](#)

HT or h/t: Usually means "hat tip." A way of acknowledging the person who originally shared the content being tweeted, such as a link to an article or video.

Impersonation: To pretend to be someone on the internet that you are not. Impersonation that is intended to deceive is prohibited under the Twitter Rules. Parody accounts are allowed. [Read about impersonation policies and procedures.](#)

Interactions: A timeline in the Notifications tab displaying all ways other users have interacted with your account, like adding you to a list, sending you a @reply, marking one of your Tweets as a Favorite, retweeting one of your Tweets.

Listed: To be included in another Twitter user's list. Listed numbers and details appear in the statistics section of your profile. [Learn more about lists.](#)

Lists: Curated groups of other Twitter users. Used to tie specific individuals into a group on your Twitter account. [Learn more about lists.](#)

Log in: The act of signing in to one's Twitter account on www.twitter.com or any third party application. <https://twitter.com/login>

Mention: Mentioning another user in your Tweet by including the @ sign followed directly by their username is called a "mention". Also refers to Tweets in which your username was included. [Read more about replies and mentions.](#)

MMS: Multimedia Messaging Service (MMS), often called picture messaging, allows you to send media like audio or photos from your phone. [Learn how to Tweet a picture via MMS.](#)

Mobile web: Twitter's website tailored to fit your mobile device. Visit it at mobile.twitter.com. [Find out how to use mobile.twitter.com.](#)

MT: Similar to RT, an abbreviation for "Modified Tweet." Placed before the retweeted text when users manually retweet a message with modifications, for example shortening a Tweet.

Name: A name that can be different from your username and is used to locate you on Twitter. Must be 20-characters or fewer. [Learn](#)

Notifications: The Notifications tab lets you view interactions, mentions, recent follows and Retweets. Using the Notifications tab you're able to view who has favorited or retweeted your Tweets, who has recently followed you, and all of your @replies and @mentions.

OAuth: A method to allow a user to grant a 3rd party access to their account without giving up their password. [Find out how to safely connect to third party applications.](#)

OH: "OH" most often means "overheard" in Tweets. Used as a way to quote funny things people overhear.

Parody: To spoof or to make fun of something in jest. Twitter users are allowed to create parody Twitter accounts, as well as commentary and fan accounts. [Read our parody guidelines.](#)

Phishing: Tricking a user to give up their username and password. This can happen by sending the user to fake login page, a page promising to get you more followers, or just simply asking for the username and password via a DM or email. [Click here](#) if your account has been phished.

Profile: A Twitter page displaying information about a user, as well as all the Tweets they have posted from their account. [Learn how to change your profile information.](#)

Profile photo: The personal image uploaded to your Twitter profile in the Settings tab of your account. [Read about how to change your profile picture.](#)

Promoted Tweets: Tweets that selected businesses have paid to promote at the top of search results on Twitter. [Read more about Promoted Tweets.](#)

Protected/Private Tweets: Twitter accounts are public by default. Choosing to protect your account means that your Tweets will only be seen by approved followers and will not appear in search. [Read more about the difference between public and protected Tweets.](#)

Query: A search performed to retrieve information from a database.

Reply: A Tweet posted in reply to another user's message, usually posted by clicking the "reply" button next to their Tweet in your timeline. Always begins with @username. [Read more about replies and mentions.](#)

Reactivation: The act of bringing a deactivated account back to life on Twitter. It's alive!! [Find out more about restoration.](#)

Retweet (noun): A Tweet by another user, forwarded to you by someone you follow. Often used to spread news or share valuable findings on Twitter. [Find out more about retweets.](#)

Retweet (verb): To retweet, retweeting, retweeted. The act of forwarding another user's Tweet to all of your followers. [Find out more about retweets.](#) Learn why you [can't retweet certain tweets.](#)

RLRT: "Real Life Retweet" is another way of saying OH ("overheard"). Used to quote something a person said in "real life."

RT: Abbreviated version of "retweet." Placed before the retweeted text when users manually retweet a message. See also Retweet. [Find out more about retweets.](#)

Short Code: A five-digit phone number used to send and receive Tweets via text message. [Find your short code.](#)

Sleep Time: Hours in which all mobile Twitter updates will cease to be delivered to your phone. Can be set up through your Settings tab. [Learn how to use Sleep Settings.](#)

SMS: Short Message Service (SMS) is most commonly known as text messaging. Most messages are a maximum of 140 characters. [Learn how to send a Tweet via SMS.](#)

Spam: Unwanted messaging or following on Twitter. We work hard to eliminate it. [Read about reporting spam on Twitter.](#)

Suspended: The act of being prevented from using Twitter due to breach of our Terms of Service. [Find out how to contest suspension.](#)

Text Commands: When using Twitter via SMS, these commands allow you to access most Twitter features with simple text keywords. [Learn](#)

Third-Party application: A third-party application is a product created by a company other than Twitter and used to access Tweets and other Twitter data. [Find out how to get help with an application.](#)

TIL: Acronym for "Today I learned." Often used at the beginning of a Tweet, for example: "TIL what a hashtag is!"

Timeline: A real-time list of Tweets on Twitter. See also Home Timeline. [Find out more about your timeline.](#)

Timestamp: A note displaying when a Tweet was posted to Twitter. Can be found in grey text directly below any Tweet. Is also a link to that Tweet's own URL. [Learn how to link directly to a Tweet.](#)

TL: Short for "Timeline." See also Timeline and Home Timeline.

Top Tweets: Tweets determined by a Twitter search algorithm to be the most popular or resonant on Twitter at any given time. [Find out more about Top Tweets.](#)

Trends: A subject algorithmically determined to be one of the most popular on Twitter at the moment. [Find out more about trends.](#)

Tweet (verb): Tweet, tweeting, tweeted. The act of posting a message, often called a "Tweet", on Twitter. [Find out how to post a Tweet.](#)

Tweet (noun): A message posted via Twitter containing 140 characters or fewer. [Find out how to post a Tweet.](#)

Tweet button: A button anyone can add to their website. Clicking this button allows Twitter users to post a Tweet with a link to that site. [Find](#)

Twitter: An information network made up of 140-character messages from all over the world. [Sign up!](#)

Unfollow: To cease following another Twitter user. Their Tweets no longer show up in your home timeline. [Learn how to unfollow.](#)

URL: A Uniform Resource Locator (URL) is a web address that points to a unique page on the internet. [Find out how to shorten links.](#)

URL Shortener: URL shorteners are used to turn long URLs into shorter URLs. Shortening services can be found online. [Find out how to shorten links.](#) Learn about [Twitter's own URL shortener.](#)

Username: Also known as a Twitter handle. Must be unique and contain fewer than 15 characters. Is used to identify you on Twitter for replies and mentions. [Find out how to change your username.](#)

Verification: A process whereby a user's Twitter account is stamped to show that a legitimate source is authoring the account's Tweets. Sometimes used for accounts who experience identity confusion on Twitter.

Whitelisted: A type of account that is allowed to go beyond the restrictions imposed by Twitter. This could be follower limits, posts, API access, etc. [Learn more about whitelisting.](#)

Who to Follow: Who to Follow can be found in the Discover tab. Here, you should see a few recommendations of **accounts we think you might find interesting**. These are based on the types of accounts you're already following and who those people follow.

Blog: Some people become concerned when they hear their WordPress site described as a “blog”, thinking it unprofessional. Remember that WordPress is a very diverse service with a variety of functions. Whilst it can be used for blogging, it is also possible to create a very professional-looking site using WordPress.com.

Post: Each blog entry you make is called a “post”. These in turn can be sorted into categories.

Category: Categories appear in the menu on the homepage and are a way of organizing your posts.

Dashboard: The dashboard is the back room of your site, where you can create new posts and customize your site as you wish. Only you can see it and access it.

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YOUTUBE TERMS

Channel: A user's page for their videos. It's the [YouTube](#) equivalent of a profile, basically.

Subscriber: When someone subscribes to your channel, they get automatic updates every time you post a video. A lot of people like to get a lot of subscribers just to show off.

Video responses: You can post a video in response to another video. These video responses

show up beneath the original video.

Embedding: You may have seen the 'Embed' box in the description to the videos you watch. People use this code and paste it on their personal web pages so that the video can be viewed directly from there.

Shows: The 'shows' tab on the front page is exactly what you'd think it is- it links to real shows presented on YouTube, legally. They have short commercial breaks in between to pay for it. However, there are also many regularly updated, user-made webshows on this page.

Playlists: Playlists are a good way of organizing videos. For example, someone could make a 'Cute Cat Videos' playlist and fill it with videos they find of cute cats. Simple as that.

Favorites: Basically, if you like a video, add it to your favorites list where it will be easier to find the next time you want to watch it.

Types of channels:

- * Comedians: Channels for comedy.
 - * Directors: Users who direct their own videos.
 - * Gurus: Users specializing a certain area who post instructional videos.
 - * Musicians: Exactly what the label says.
 - * Non-Profit: Non-profit organizations posting videos for their "causes."
 - * Partners: Other companies with YouTube channels, such as Universal Music.
 - * Politicians: Politicians advertising on YouTube.
 - * Reporters: As it says, news companies and reporters.
 - * Sponsors: YouTube sponsors who pay for YouTube to show their promotional videos.
- And of course, the 'basic' channel that makes up the general population of YouTube.