

What is Roblox?

Roblox is an online platform where members play games created by other users or create their own unique games, chat with other users and become part of the Roblox community.

There are more than 50 million games on Roblox, limited only by the imagination of Roblox users – popular games let users adopt pets, race cars, catch zombies, take part in murder mysteries, complete obstacle courses or move into virtual cities and live whole online lives. Most of these games are multi-player.

While Roblox is free, users are encouraged to spend real money on 'Robux', a virtual currency allowing users to purchase in-game items or experiences (like unique abilities or weapons in games, or clothes for avatars). Users can also earn Robux by creating games and content on Roblox or by charging other users to play their games.

The Robux community is large and active. Users can add friends and chat to them in real-time, via both voice and text.

How can I see what's on Roblox?

Roblox is available on your smartphone, tablet, computer and Xbox and Nintendo Switch. It's best viewed on desktop at roblox.com

Create an account, log-on and visit any Roblox experience. When you click the green play button, the Roblox software will start downloading onto your computer.







What is the age limit for Roblox and what does this mean for how young people use it?

There is no official age limit for Roblox – anyone of any age can use the platform. Roblox does have some restrictions in place for users in different age groups.

'Kid' accounts under the age of 13 have filters applied to their in-game chats, automatically censoring both what they say and what they can read. Roblox recommends parents own the accounts of users under 13 so they can then apply stronger protections to their children's accounts, such as limiting who can invite them into private servers, who can chat with their child or who can follow them into different areas of specific games.

Users older than 13 have fewer restrictions, but still cannot share phone numbers and addresses.

Roblox breaks its games into four categories (definitions provided by Roblox):

- All ages content: suitable for everyone.
- 9+ may have frequent mild violence, heavy unrealistic blood, and/or mild crude humour
- 13+ may contain moderate violence, realistic light blood, unplayable gambling content, and/or moderate crude humour
- 17+ (for users verified to be 17 and older) – may contain intense violence, heavy realistic blood/gore, romantic themes, presence of alcohol, moderate crude humour and/or unplayable gambling content

What parental controls does Roblox have?

You need to log into your young person's account to set up parental controls. As always, it's best to use these with your young person's knowledge and understanding of why these steps are necessary, and for you both to decide together if they are.

While logged into your young person's account, adults will be able to see chat history (both direct messages and small group chats), private message history, who their friends and followers are, their transaction and trade histories, as well as what they've been playing, creating and experiencing (including ads).

Adults can link a verified parental email to their young person's account. This allows them to set up pins to approve and limit spending and manage communication settings. The pin locks account settings and prevents young people from making any changes. Adults can also control what games young people can access, select 'allowed experiences' and create lists of approved games. They can also disable ingame spending or set monthly limits.

Parental controls are accessed in the settings menu.

What other things do I need to be aware of to keep my young person safe on Roblox?

- Make sure your young person knows how to <u>block</u> users and that their <u>privacy settings</u> are set up so you're both comfortable with who can talk to them.
- If your young person finds inappropriate or harmful content that breaks Roblox's rules, they can <u>report it</u>.
- Unfortunately, Roblox doesn't allow users to block specific games. If users find the content of a particular game distressing for any reason, other than reporting it (if it breaks Roblox's rules), they will need to take steps to avoid it themselves.
- Check your young person has signed up with their correct age.
- Explore Roblox together, ask them to show you why they enjoy it, make sure you understand enough about the platform to judge whether they're safe on it and take action if they're not, and have fun together on it. Be there and stay involved with their online life, and make sure they know they can come to you if they're ever feeling uncomfortable or unsafe.
- Talk to them about role-playing games and the behaviour and boundaries you would like to see even in an online game.
- Ensure your young people are aware that if they are talking to people they don't know on Roblox, they need to keep the conversation on Roblox - don't accept invitations to connect on other platforms like Discord, Snapchat or TikTok.

