



NET-TIQUETTE

10 THINGS YOU SHOULD AND SHOULDN'T DO ON SOCIAL NETWORKS

- 1.** Avoid TMI (Too much information). Do not list every band you ever liked. Keep it simple.
- 2.** Do not put up pictures of your friends looking drunk, etc. It makes you look less attractive by association.
- 3.** Parents and bosses are now on networking sites. Keep that in mind when making your profile.
- 4.** Having lots of on-line friends may make you look popular. But too many makes you look desperate.
- 5.** Only "friend" people you actually want to interact with.
- 6.** You also don't have to accept every friend request. Is a person sending you an invitation, or is the service sending you an automatic message? Not sure? Delete the notification email.
- 7.** When in doubt, don't go public. Leaving gross or obscene wall postings on other people's sites is not cool.
- 8.** Make sure you understand what your "default" is — does "just friends" actually mean the whole world? Some things are nobody else's business.
- 9.** Do not invent some person who is not you.
- 10.** Do not say anything about yourself or others online that you would not say out loud in, say, a classroom.

—Christine Whitney, in *The Independent*, London