Doxxing Yourself on the Internet
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Search Engines

Google & Bing Search Operators		
Operator	**What it searches**	**Example**
Site	Provides results of pages located on a specific domain	site:facebook.com
AND/OR	Use the AND operator to return results containing two results. Use the OR operator to return results that contain one result or the other result.	"John Smith" AND (Portland OR Salem)
Asterisk	Google treats the asterisk as a placeholder for a word or words in a search string.	"John * Smith"
Hyphen	This operator allows you to exclude the text immediately following it.	"John Smith" -site:personalwebsite.com
Filetype	Filter search results by a single file type extension Common File Types: ● DOC/DOCX ● XLS/XLXS ● PPT/PPTX ● TXT ● JPG/JPEG/PNG (Image files)	filetype:xls intext:youremail@gmail.com

	• PDF	

Bing Search Operators		
Operator	**What it searches**	**Example**
LinkFromDomain	Creates results that link to every website within a website.	LinkFromDomain:website.com
Contains	Allows you to filter search results by a single file type extension on a specific website.	Contains:csv site:website.com

Google Alerts

Once you're signed into your Google account, you can set up Google Alerts here:
https://www.google.com/alerts

Tip | We recommend you use Google alerts with your personal Gmail account. This way, if you leave the company you still have the alerts.

Tip | Please note that any alerts you set up are saved in your Google account - while re recommend setting up alerts for information such as your phone number or physical address, we do not recommend setting up alerts for particularly sensitive information, such as your Social Security Number.

Public Record/People Aggregator

There are hundreds of people aggregator sites out there - many large sites "feed" smaller sites, making them a good starting point for significantly decreasing your online footprint. **Below is a short list of sites that we recommend starting with**. Once you've tackled those sites, within a few weeks the amount of your personal data across people aggregator sites will significantly decrease.

See if you can find profiles of yourself on these sites and consider taking steps to opt out. Please note that some of these sites will request you provide some personal data to opt out, such as email address, phone number, and address. Here are some tips for this:

- Create a seperate, "burner" email address to use for opting out. If you already have one, just use that.
- Set up a virtual phone number, like Google Voice or Sudo.
- Only provide sites with data they already have about you. If you see that they have an old home address, do not provide them with a current address, just provide them with the address they already have listed for verification.
- **Don't EVER** provide a copy of any documents, such as a driver's license or passport.

People Aggregator Sites (Getting Started)			
Site name	**Website**	**Opt out link**	**Notes**
CheckThem	https://checkthem.com	https://www.checkthem.com/optout/	
Radaris	https://radaris.com	https://www.safeshepherd.com/handbook/radaris.com	You are required to create an account when removing data from Radaris.
Intelius	https://www.intelius.com/	https://www.intelius.com/optout	
Fast People Search	https://www.fastpeoplesearch.com	https://www.fastpeoplesearch.com/removal	
White Pages	https://whitepages.com	https://www.wikihow.com/Remove-Your-Listing-on-WhitePages	
Family Tree Now	https://www.familytreenow.com	https://www.familytreenow.com/optout	
Spokeo	https://www.spokeo.com	https://www.spokeo.com/optout	
Instant Checkmate	https://www.instantcheckmate.com	https://www.instantcheckmate.com/opt-out	

Peoplefinders	https://www.peoplefinders.com	https://www.peoplefinders.com/manage	
MyLife	https://mylife.com	https://www.privacyduck.com/mylife-com-opt-out-deletion-instructions-from-privacyduck/	The instructions will say to send a copy of your driver's license to remove your data - please **do not** do this! Instead state that you are concerned for your safety in the email. They still should remove your data, but please let us know if you have issues.
Been Verified	https://www.beenverified.com	https://www.beenverified.com/f/optout/search	
People Search Now	https://www.peoplesearchnow.com	https://www.peoplesearchnow.com/opt-out	
TruthFinder	https://www.truthfinder.com	https://www.truthfinder.help/remove/	
Advanced Background Check	https://www.advancedbackgroundchecks.com	https://www.advancedbackgroundchecks.com/removal	

If you'd like to go further, take a look at IntelTechniques' complete list of people aggregator sites with associated opt-out steps - please note that The New York Times has not fully vetted all of these sites.

Social Media

Identify your social media accounts

- Enter your commonly used handles into https://namecheckr.com to see where that handle is being used. This can help you discover old accounts you may have set up, as well as keep an eye for impersonation accounts
- Set up two-factor authentication on your social media sites. Check out twofactorauth.org for instructions on how to set up two-factor authentication for popular websites.
  - We recommend using an **authenticator application** (aka a mobile security app or software token) rather than SMS text messages, as your second form of authentication. This is a more secure method and prevents from attacks such as SIM hijacking.

Facebook

Tip | You must have a Facebook account and be logged in to search for other Facebook users. The tool below will not show any results if you are not logged in.

- Consider modifying your privacy settings:
  - Hide your Friends list - Settings → Privacy
  - Set approval request on picture tagging (Settings → Timeline & Tagging)
  - Remove option for search engines to link to your profile (Settings → Privacy)
- Turn on two-factor authentication
- Enable alerts for unrecognized logins.

Twitter

- Twitter simple search: https://twitter.com/search-home
- Twitter advanced search: https://twitter.com/search-advance
- Turn on two-factor authentication

Twitter Search Operators		
from	Messages username is sending out	from:yourhandle

to	Messages being sent to username	From:yourhandle to:friendhandle
geocode	Tweets occurring within range of specific GPS coordinates	geocode:40.753830318,-73.987329384,1km "mcdonalds"
AND/OR	Use the AND operator to return results containing two results. Use the OR operator to return results that contain one result or the other result.	from:yourhandle OR from:friendshandle
since:YYYY-MM-DD until:YYYY-MM-DD	Tweets occurring within a specific date range	From:yourhandle since:2005-01-01 until:2005-01-31

Instagram

The in app search field only shows users and hashtags related to search terms.

Google Dorking for Instagram:
- Site:instagram.com "username"
- Site:instagram.com "username" -site:instagram.com/username"

Other tips:
- [Turn on two-factor authentication](#).
- Be conscious of when you choose to share Instagram stories, and consider waiting until after you leave a location before you post a story.

LinkedIn

Tip | If you are searching for others while logged into your profile, they will be able to see that you viewed their profile with the default settings. *Me > Settings & Privacy > Privacy > Profile viewing options*

Google Dorking for Linkedin:
- Site:linkedin.com "Google"
- Site:linkedin.com "Software Developer at Google"

Linkedin Privacy Settings
- To limit & protect your information navigate to: Me → Settings & Privacy → Privacy
- [Turn on two-factor authentication](#)

Additional Resources

Check to see if you email or username has been associated with a data breach at
https://haveibeenpwned.com/

To search the Internet Archive for personal information use https://web.archive.org/