

Technology Serving Seniors

Social Media: Problems & Opportunities Twitter/LinkedIn/Facebook & Email/Telephone Spam plus Family/Friend & Community/Business Connections

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How did Social Media begin? . . . direct electronic information exchange, to virtual gathering place, to retail platform, to vital 21st-century marketing tool!



May 24, 1844, with a series of electronic dots and dashes tapped out by hand on a telegraph machine . . . the first electronic message from Baltimore to Washington, D.C., proved Samuel Morse understood the historic ramifications of his scientific achievement: **"What hath God wrought?"** he wrote.



DEFINITION: **Social media** is a computer-based platform to facilitate sharing our thoughts, ideas, and information to communicate with other people.

History of Social Media









Condensed History of Social Media





Internet Social Media Starts

- 1997: Andrew Weinreich created SixDegrees.com.
- 1997: Barry Appelman, Eric Bosco, and Jerry Harris created AOL instant messenger.
- 1999: Jerry Yang and David Filo established Yahoo! Messenger.
- 1999: Microsoft creates MSN Messenger to offer new features like video calling.
- 1999: Brad Fitzpatrick created LiveJournal; a platform for blogging.
- 2001: SixDegrees.com shuts down.
- 2001: Windows Messenger, the integrated version of MSN Messenger is out.
- 2002: Friendster is born; a place for gaming and social networking. it's a brainchild of Jonathan Abrams.
- 2003: Reid Hoffman and some of his coworkers introduce LinkedIn.
- 2003: Thomas Anderson founds Myspace.
- 2003: Niklas Zennström and the Dane create Janus Friis Skype.
- 2004: Mark Zuckerberg starts the legendary Facebook.
- 2005: Aaron Swartz introduces Reddit.
- 2006: Twitter is out. Jack Dorsey founds this platform.
- 2006: Pavel Durov founds VK (VKontakte).

- 2010: Ben Silbermann establishes Pinterest.
- 2010: Kevin Systrom introduces Instagram; one of the most popular photo-sharing platforms ever is launched.
- 2011: Evan Spiegel founds Snapchat.
- 2011: Google executive Bradley Horowitz introduces Google plus.
- 2011: Justin Kan introduces Twitch, a live-streaming platform for gamers.
- 2012: Sean Rad launches Tinder, one of the most favorite dating apps ever.
- 2012: Instagram is owned by Facebook for 1 billion dollars in cash and stock.
- 2013: Larry Page and Sergey Brin who invented Google, invent Google Hangouts, too.
- 2014: Amazon acquires the live-streaming service for gamers, Twitch.
- 2014: Alex Zhu and Luyu Yang invent a lip-syncing app called musical.ly.
- 2015: Friendster ceases to exist.
- 2015: Discord starts.
- 2016: Yahoo! stops on Windows, Linux, and Mac.
- 2017: ByteDance owns Musical.ly for 1 billion dollars.
- 2017: a platform for short video sharing called TikTok is out.
- 2018: Yahoo! Shuts down completely.
- 2019: Google plus shuts down.

Top Internet Social Media

R a n k	Name	Monthly Active Users	Revenue	Start	Headquarters
1	Facebook	2.7 billion	\$86 billion	2004	Menlo Park, CA
2	YouTube	2 billion	\$19.8 billion	2005	San Bruno, California
3	Whatsapp	2 billion	\$5 billion	2009	Menlo Park, California
4	Instagram	1.16 billion	\$6.8 billion	2010	Menlo Park, CA
5	TikTok	689 million	\$35 billion	2016	Culver City, CA
6	Snapchat	433 million	\$911 million	2011	Los Angeles, CA
7	Reddit	430 million	\$212.5 million	2005	San Francisco, CA
8	Pinterest	416 million	\$1,693 million	2010	San Francisco, CA
9	Twitter	353 million	\$3.72 billion	2006	San Francisco, CA
10	LinkedIn	310 million	\$8.05 billion	2003	Mountain View, CA

SOCIAL MEDIA CONTINUES TO THRIVE IN THE U.S.



of U.S. adults population uses social media



73%

of U.S. adults regularly visit YouTube



69% of U.S. adults are on Facebook



75%

of U.S. adults 18 to 24 use Instagram



73% of U.S. adults use Snapchat



Social Media Concerns

- Online vs Reality: the way people use it in place of actual communication and in-person socializing. "Friends" on social media may not actually be friends, and may even be strangers.
- **Increased usage:** the more **time spent** on social media can lead to cyberbullying, social anxiety, depression, and exposure to content that is not age appropriate.
- **Social Media is addicting:** happiness hormones, making you happy. All the notifications for likes and positive comments make you subconsciously register it as a reward. Social media is full of mood-modifying experiences.
- Fear of Missing Out: Continual checking of social media sites. Idea that you might miss out on something if not online can affect your mental health.
- Self-image issues. Social media sites provide tools that allow people to earn others' approval for their appearance and the possibility to compare themselves to others. The "selfieholics" and people who spend most of their time posting and scrolling are the ones most vulnerable to this.

Our Social Media Focus



Email Disadvantages

- Information overload: some messages dismissed or left unread
- Lacks personal touch: some things should be verbally relayed or written by hand in a note or letter
- Can be disruptive: interrupts work or other activities
- Cannot be ignored: needs constant maintenance
- Cause misunderstandings: true if senders fail to read through and edit their messages before they send them
- Can contain viruses: be careful when opening messages from people you don't know, or when downloading attachments
- Requires timely responses: should be replied to as soon as they are received and read, since some may be urgent

Email Advantages

- Free Tool: once online, no more expense to send/receive
- Quick and Direct: click a button to send, deliver and read
- Simple and Easy Use: allows for the easy and quick access of information, photos, attachments and contacts
- Easy Referencing: messages sent and received can stored
- Accessible Anywhere: office, field, overseas, access inbox
- Paperless: beneficial for the planet, reduce the costs
- Mass Messaging: effective medium to get your message out
- **Instant Access**: send yourself and others files and keep messages for paper trail of conversations and interaction

Disadvantages of Facebook



- Addiction: feel like they are missing out if they are not constantly logged in
- Loss of Productivity: time wasted by playing games, chatting to friends or browsing new photos
- Malware & Viruses: often automatically posts links and status updates in an attempt to fool other users, which can lead to your account being compromised
- Identity Theft: personal information end up in the wrong hands, and allow access to your other online accounts, even open up new accounts for you
- Antisocial Behavior: cyber bullying or narcissistic behavior by critics, particularly vulnerable youth
- **Relationship Problems**: easy to find and connect with people from your past, but strain marriages



Advantages of Facebook

- Better Socializing: easy to find out like-minded people by seeing their interests, and easily connect with them by looking up their wall updates, interests
- **Chatting**: Messenger app for quick text chatting, Skype and WhatsApp free video calling with friends
- Find Friends: Friend Finder helps find their names or email addresses, see their photos, updates, more
- Business Promotion: sell or promote products or services targeted audience, increase brand value
- Entertainment: see friends, share photos and activities, play games, preview movies, more
- Pages, groups, news-feed: getting the latest information, publish news, info, photos, videos
- Free: best medium for communication & networking

Recognize Phone Scams

- There is no prize: you were "selected" for an offer or that you've won a lottery. . . if you have to pay, it's not a prize.
- Won't be arrested: you'll be arrested or fined if you don't pay taxes or some other debt right away
- Don't need decision now: legitimate businesses will give you time to think their offer over and get written information about it
- No reason to send cash or gift card: Scammers will ask you to pay in a way that makes it hard to get your money back
- Government agencies won't call: never a good idea to give out sensitive information like your Social Security number
- Shouldn't get those calls: If on the National Do Not Call Registry, you shouldn't get live sales calls from companies you haven't done business with before



Common Phone Scam Examples

- **Imposter scams:** pretends to be someone you trust like the Social Security Administration or the IRS, a family member, a love interest, or someone claiming there's a problem with your computer
- **Debt relief scams:** lower credit card interest rates or get your student loans forgiven if you pay their company a fee first

MERGEN

- Business scams: help you start your own business and give you business coaching, or guarantee big profits from an investment
- Charity scams: requesting donations for disaster relief efforts or police organizations
- Extended car warranties: learn kind of car you drive and when you bought it so you buy overpriced or worthless service contracts
- "Free" trials: promise a free trial but then sign you up for products that you're billed for every month until you cancel
- **Prize and lottery scams:** won a prize, but you need to pay taxes, registration fees, or shipping charges to get it
- **Travel timeshare scams** promise free or low-cost vacations that can end up costing you a lot in hidden costs or no vacation at all





FAKE CLAIMS

ROBO

FAKE PROFILES & PHOTOS

COM PO

How To Stop Calls From Scammers

- Hang up: when a company is calling you illegally, it's not a company you want to do business with; when a robocall, don't press any numbers
- Consider call blocking or call labeling: best defense against unwanted calls is "call blocking"; see what services your phone carrier offers, and look online for expert reviews
- Don't trust your caller ID: "spoofing" can make it look like it's a government agency or like the call is from a local number or a friend
- Learn more: unwanted calls and more solutions at <u>ftc.gov/calls</u>



- Fake order phishing email: confirming a purchase that you didn't make then divulging your credentials to correct
- **Gift card scams:** trick them into purchasing and sending Amazon gift cards to get a family member out of trouble
- **Payment scams:** paying to claim a prize that you've supposedly won or to a seller whose identity you can't verify, and avoid offers that seem too good to be true



Social Media Opportunities

- Staying Connected with family and friends worldwide via email, text, FaceTime, more
- Quick Access to information and research
- Banking and bill pay at our fingertips
- Online Learning, job skills, content discovery (YouTube, Pinterest, dedicated sites)
- Civic Engagement (fundraising, social awareness, provides a voice, represents an interest)
- Marketing Tools for products, services, destinations
- Remote Employment opportunities and advantages



Technology Serving Seniors

the End of This Session

Smart Home Automation: Lights/Sound & Video/Appliances is the next session