

Because safety should come before screen time.

# ➔ New Device Setup Guide for Parents

Bringing a new device into your child's life is an exciting milestone - but it also comes with important responsibilities. Phones, tablets, and gaming systems are often set up for convenience by default, not safety.

This guide is designed to help parents take a proactive approach by setting up devices with the right protections from day one. With a few intentional steps, you can create a safer digital environment before your child even starts exploring.

## START WITH THE BASICS

### Before handing over a device:

- Update device software
- Create strong passwords/passcodes
- Enable automatic updates
- Set up parent/family accounts first
- Discuss screen time expectations

## ESSENTIAL PRIVACY & SECURITY SETTINGS

### Turn On Privacy Controls

Review and limit:

- Location sharing
- Camera & microphone access
- App tracking permissions
- Contact & photo access

Only allow what's necessary.

### Set Profiles to Private

For apps, games, and social platforms:

- Make accounts private
- Limit messaging permissions
- Hide personal information
- Restrict friend requests to known contacts

### Enable Content Filters

Turn on:

- SafeSearch
- YouTube Restricted Mode
- App Store restrictions
- Explicit content filters

These settings help reduce exposure to inappropriate content.

### Review Chat Features

Many games and apps include:

- Voice chat
- Private messaging
- Group conversations

Disable unnecessary communication features for younger users.

## PARENTAL CONTROLS BY DEVICE

DEVICE	USE	HELPFUL FOR
iPhone/iPad	Screen Time, Family Sharing, Content, Restrictions	App limits, Purchase approvals, Website filtering
Android Devices	Google Family Link	Screen time management, App approvals, Device monitoring
Gaming Systems	For Xbox, PlayStation & Nintendo Switch:	Set age restrictions, Limit multiplayer communication, Restrict purchases, Review friend requests regularly

## AGE APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS

Ages 5-8	Shared devices only Supervised browsing Educational apps No social media
Ages 9-12	Parent-monitored devices Limited messaging access Strong privacy settings Ongoing conversations about online safety
Ages 13+	<b>Focus on:</b> Digital responsibility Privacy & consent Healthy boundaries Safe social media habits

Monitoring should evolve with maturity—not disappear completely.

The safest devices are paired with informed, involved parenting. Strong settings and open communication help children build healthier, safer digital habits from the beginning.

Helping parents stay ahead in a fast-changing digital world.

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