# Social Media Do’s and Don’ts
Do you take P.R.I.D.E. in your social media self?

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<th><strong>DO</strong></th>
<th><strong>DON’T</strong></th>
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| Start By Googling Yourself  
Even if you have a common name, you never know what might show up in a search! | Post Illegal Activities  
No matter how you slice it, sharing anything related to illegal activities can get you into hot water with a lot more than just an employer. |
| Post “Career-Friendly” Links  
Social media is great for sharing opinions, but be wary of what your posts may say about you to an employer. | Bully or Use Hateful Speech  
The idea of “treating others as you would like to be treated” still stands as the Golden Rule — even on social media! |
| Follow Your Mentors/Role Models  
Stay up to date on what professionals in your dream career field are doing! | Trash-Talk Professors, Co-Workers or Companies  
You never know who might be able to see what you post. Don’t let something you say one day get you into trouble the next! |
| Make (and USE!) a LinkedIn Profile  
It gives you a professional social media self, and keeps the networking going with those in your field! | “Check-In” Excessively  
Constantly updating social media with your whereabouts can be annoying as well as dangerous. |
| Keep a Consistent Social Media Presence  
Conflicting personas across accounts can make employers unsure of which “you” they are hiring! | Lie, Cheat or Plagiarize  
You wouldn’t use someone else’s work in a paper, right? Your social media self should be just that — yours! |
| Use Proper Grammar and Spelling  
Using shortened lingo is OK if you’re on Twitter and have a character limit, but using “U” or “TTYL” elsewhere on social media can look unprofessional. | Have an Unprofessional Social Media Presence  
Posting pictures from last Friday might be fun, but do you really want an employer to see them? |
| Bring Social Media Interactions into the “Real World”  
If you run into someone you’re connected with online, say hi and use the link to strike up conversation! | Rely on Your Privacy Settings  
Privacy settings, though great, are not a catch-all. You never know who may be able to see your posts! |

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