

Roblox

Multi-Gaming Fact Sheet



Roblox is a game site that allows players to design and upload their own games and they are added to a pool of games for players to select from.

The quality of these games can vary depending on the skill level of the game makers. Some of these games are not very user friendly as they have been made by novices.

All that is needed to set up an account with Roblox is an email address. This means it is easy for children to set up their own account for children, but it is also easier to set up a fake account for anyone who may want to do so.

For the budding gaming designer this is a great platform for fine tuning their skill. They give tips and design elements to help the designers to make a contribution to this gaming platform.

Roblox is a multi-player environment and there is an open chat function available. Children can be exposed to inappropriate language and unfriendly online behaviour with the open chat function. Some children have reported receiving inappropriate, upsetting and predatory messages.

They are also at risk of connecting with strangers. Anyone can pose as a child online and strike up a friendship with a younger person.

Roblox Risk Rating

Although the recommended age for Roblox is 10-12 (depending on the rating system) this new interactive game is attracting children as young as 5 years old.

This age group does not understand the risks of multiplayer games and are too young to understand the complexities of online behaviour. They may find themselves seeing, reading things from older players that are worrying or confusing, and some of the game content may not be age appropriate.

Parents can create a log in and monitor their kids activity, and a safe chat mode can be enabled, and chat can also simply be turned off.

Roblox offers ROBUX which are "Roblox dollars", these can be earned over time or purchased with real money. Another reason parents need to monitor this very closely. Roblox does have a filtering system for inappropriate content and their moderators are on the watch for

anyone who violates their rules of conduct outlined in the terms and conditions. They have a team who look at uploaded material to check for appropriateness and there is an opportunity for young people to report inappropriate chat messages. If necessary players can completely block others from chatting with them.

Potential for

Adult content	★★★★
Violence	★★
Cyberbullying	★★★★
Grooming	★★★★★
Inappropriate language	★★★★

Cybersafe Families recommend parents play Roblox with their children from beginning to end first before allowing independent play. It is also important to have a conversation about respectful communication and positive online relationships and caution children about interacting with strangers online.