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Facebook Security & Privacy: Profile Lockdown

One of the current threats in the Facebook environment is that a hacker can assume your identity. They create a new profile in your name (using photos from your real profile) and send a friend request to all your friends. Many people don't realize this is a fraudulent profile, as they see your photo and assume it's you. Here are some suggested changes for settings to help minimize this threat.

1) **Facebook Friends**

Go to your profile and click on the Friends tab
Hover over the pencil on the far right (Manage) and click Edit Privacy
Change each setting to **Only me** and click Done (Now, no one can see your friends list.)

2) **Facebook Wall**

Go back to your main profile page and edit every post you have made to be accessible by **Friends** rather than **Public**. There is a little pull down box to the right of the date on each post. Now, only Friends can see your posts. As you add new posts, make sure the setting is **Friends or ** see below**.

3) **Facebook Photos**

Go back to your main profile page and click on Photos then Albums.
Go through and change all photos and albums to be accessible by **Friends** rather than **Public**.

Your active profile photo and cover photo will always be **Public**. If you want to, just put up a dummy photo up for both images.

4) **Facebook About**

Go back to your main profile page and click About
Edit each section and change the accessible setting to **Friends**.

** You can go through your friends list and change people that aren't really close to an **Acquaintances** status.
- go to a friend's profile and click on the Friends button, you can change to **Acquaintances**. It will still say Friends, but will have a different icon on the button.

When you add a post that might be more private for your close friends, change the status to **Friends, Except Acquaintances**. Your acquaintances will not see the new post.