



Monkey App

How does it work?

There are 4 key features on Monkey:

- Moments – short videos like Instagram Stories
- Videochat – one to one conversations, you can select friends or random strangers
- Texting – like direct messaging
- Swipe to Match – similar to online dating apps where you 'swipe right' for people you like the look of

What is Monkey?

- Monkey is a live video chat platform
- It is only available on Google Play store or via a web browser. It has been removed from the Apple app store.
- Launched in 2016 and has 30 million users worldwide

What are the risks?

- Users should be 18 or older to join however there is no age verification process and it is marketed at teens. There are also no measures to block underage users.
- They state that they are an alternative to Omegle and Ome TV and have addressed concerns about privacy and content moderation however many users have reported seeing inappropriate and explicit content on the app.
- In terms of privacy, Monkey collects personal information from linked accounts, records IP addresses and usage statistics. They do not use end to end encryption on messages like more secure messaging apps such as Whatsapp and there are concerns about how protected uploaded photos and videos are.
- Users are encouraged to make in-app subscription purchases and these are promoted as a way to make more friends.

Encourage young people to use the internet to have meaningful conversations with people they know and trust

Have open conversations about seeing or showing body parts online in photos or videos

Reinforce rules about talking to or meeting strangers

Report inappropriate content to hello@monkey.app

Read Community Guidelines at www.monkey.app/#/community?type=web and talk to young people about respecting these and turning off chats with people who don't

Guide to setting up Parental Controls

www.internetmatters.org/setupsafe

Starting conversations about Online Safety

www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/

The latest advice and guidance on key online safety issues

www.childnet.com/