



# Consent and texting etiquette



**Good Things**  
Australia

# Introduction



Building healthy online relationships is exactly like building them in person - it all comes down to respect. In the digital world, "consent" means checking that the other person is happy with how, when, and what you are communicating.

Good texting etiquette ensures that your messages are welcomed rather than seen as a nuisance, helping you stay connected without overstepping any invisible boundaries.

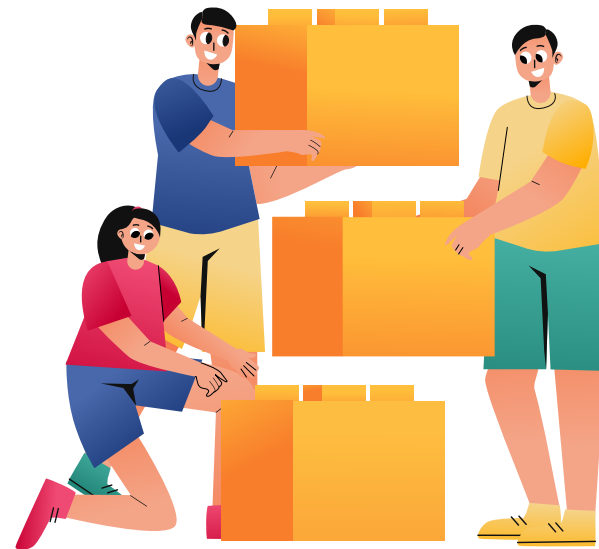
# Important to remember

When engaging with others online, remember the following things:



## **Respecting personal space:**

Just because someone's phone is always in their pocket doesn't mean they are always "available" to talk.



## **Building trust:**

Clear boundaries make people feel safe. When you ask before sharing a photo or adding someone to a group chat, you show that you value their privacy.



## **Avoiding misunderstandings:**

Without tone of voice or body language, texts can easily be misread. Good etiquette helps keep your true intentions clear.

# Learn more about consent



To better understand what consent is, refer to this [eSafety article on consent](#).

# Top 5 tips for texting etiquette

## 1. Check the time

Avoid texting very early in the morning or late at night unless it is an emergency. Just because you are awake doesn't mean they want their phone pinging on the bedside table!



# Top 5 tips for texting etiquette

## 2. Don't "spam" the chat

If you haven't had a reply to your first message, wait a while before sending another. Sending five messages in a row can feel quite overwhelming for the person on the receiving end.



# Top 5 tips for texting etiquette

## 3. Ask before you “group”

Before adding a friend to a large group chat, send them a quick private message to see if they actually want to be in it. Group chats can be noisy and use up a lot of data.



# Top 5 tips for texting etiquette

## 4. Keep it concise

If you have a lot to say, consider a phone call instead. Long "walls of text" can be difficult to read on a small screen and might be ignored until the person has more time.



# Top 5 tips for texting etiquette

## 5. The “permission to post” rule

Never share a photo of someone else or forward a private message they sent you without asking them first. Once something is online, it is very hard to take back.

