

# MY CYBER FACE

What does your “cyber face” say about you? Online communities like Facebook® and MySpace® are a great way to meet people and stay in touch with old friends. But, there are some important things you should keep in mind when creating your profile:

## *Posts are never really private.*

The World Wide Web is just that: world-wide. Even though access to your online profile can be restricted to certain groups or communities, those groups are often larger than you may realize. And it's always possible for the information you post to be shared with others outside your groups. Remember that not everyone on the Internet is a friend: it's always best to play it safe.

## *Posts are not anonymous.*

Obviously, posting your name, e-mail address and phone number makes it easy to track you down. But, even if you sign posts anonymously, clues in your profile can help to identify you. You could even be found through your computer's IP address.

## *Posts are not temporary.*

You can delete information from your profile or even remove it altogether, but the information still exists on other people's computers and in the files of organizations that archive Web sites. Also, check your online community's terms of agreement. You may find that the community owns your posts and can use them in promotions and advertisements long after you've removed them from your profile.

## *Posts are subject to the rules of the online communities.*

Online communities usually prohibit users from posting harmful content, including offensive language and photos, threatening text and evidence of illegal activity. Understand that laws enforced offline can be enforced online too.

**Have fun, but be smart!**

Adapted from the University of South Carolina

# MyFace

## Mary William's Profile

William & Mary



### Flatter yourself

Post pictures you'd be proud to show to **anyone** -- your friends, parents, grandparents, professors, your future employers and even the police.

### Information

#### Account Info

Name: Mary  
Networks: William & Mary  
Last update: October 6, 2006

#### Basic Info

Birthdate:  
Hometown:

#### Contact Info

Email:

#### Personal Info

Favorite Music:  
Favorite Movies:  
Favorite Books:

Favorite Quotes:

### Keep it like a secret

Limit information that can be used to identify you. Consider listing your city, but not your address. List your birthday month and date, but not the year.

Vital Facts: William & Mary's History

#### Education Info

College: William & Mary

### Groups

Tribe Pride Colonial Williamsburg Student Assembly  
UCAB W&M Study Abroad William & Mary Students  
We Love Sam Sadler William  
Multicultural Ambassadors Cou  
Relations Club W&M STAND  
Now: Darfur Relay for Life

### Join the right crowd

Think about what the groups you joining say about you.

### Show some respect

Using threatening or offensive language not only makes you look bad, it can be a crime. So be considerate and use common sense when posting.

### The Wall



CNU wrote

Hey, Mary! See you in the Fall!



Sam Sadler wrote

Welcome back, Mary! Don't forget to read my emails!