Parent Safety Guide: Fortnite

With more young children exploring online games like **Fortnite**, **Roblox**, and **Minecraft**, it's more important than ever for parents to understand these platforms — and how to help keep kids safe while they play.

Many of the children I work with regularly mention these games as part of their daily routines and social lives. While they can be creative, educational, and fun, they also expose children to potential risks such as inappropriate content, unsafe online interactions, and unmonitored communication with strangers.

This guide is designed to help parents understand:

- The specific safety concerns associated with **Fortnite** (and briefly, Roblox and Minecraft)
- How to set up and use parental controls
- How to talk with your child about online safety and responsible gaming
- Where to find trusted resources and setup guides

By staying informed and actively involved, parents can help ensure that online gaming remains a positive and secure experience for their children.

Recommended Age: 13+

Fortnite is rated T for Teen by the ESRB, indicating it's suitable for ages 13 and older. The game features cartoonish violence and online multiplayer interactions, which may not be appropriate for younger children. Parents should be aware of in-game purchases and the game's competitive nature. Using parental controls to limit chat features and screen time can help manage the gaming experience.

1. Why the Concern?

While **Fortnite** is widely regarded as safe and educational, there are some safety considerations:

- Exposure to inappropriate language or content in multiplayer modes, user-generated maps, or chat features
- **Contact with strangers** in online multiplayer or public servers
- In-game purchases through V-Bucks, skins, or battle passes
- Potential for excessive screen time, especially when playing immersive battle royale or creative modes

While Epic Games has implemented safety measures — including filtered chat for younger players, privacy settings, and moderation tools — active parental monitoring remains essential.

2. How You Can Protect Your Child

Set Up Fortnite Parental Controls

Fortnite offers tools to help parents manage content, multiplayer interaction, and spending:

- Link your Epic Games account to your child's for shared management
- Use chat filters to limit exposure to inappropriate language
- Restrict multiplayer access to friends or local servers only
- Enable screen time limits through Epic Games parental controls
- Manage purchases and V-Bucks access to prevent unauthorized spending
- Review game settings together to ensure safety in modes, skins, and servers

Keep Talking and Monitoring

- **Discuss online safety** regularly. Encourage your child to tell you if something makes them uncomfortable.
- Play together occasionally to understand the game and what your child enjoys.
- Watch for changes in behavior irritability, secrecy, or distress after gaming can be signs something is off.

3. Why This Matters

While Fortnite can be **creative**, **educational**, **and social**, it also exposes children to **real online risks**, especially in multiplayer or modded servers. Until full safety supervision is in place, the **best protection** is:

- Active parental involvement
- Open communication with your child
- Use of parental controls and privacy settings

4. Recommended Resources & Setup Guides

Official Guides

• Fortnite Parental Controls

This official guide provides an overview of the various parental control features available in Fortnite, including how to manage and monitor your child's gameplay.

• A Parents' Guide to Fortnite

Offers detailed information on how Fortnite works, the safety measures in place, and how to utilize parental controls effectively.

• How to Set Up Parental Controls for Fortnite

Step-by-step instructions on creating parent and child accounts, setting up a family group, and managing privacy and safety settings.

Third-Party Guides

• Internet Matters: Fortnite Parental Controls Guide

Provides comprehensive steps for customizing in-game chat settings, setting up time limits, and managing multiplayer access to ensure a safe gaming environment.

• Bark: Fortnite Safety Guide

Focuses on monitoring multiplayer interactions and setting up parental controls to ensure safe online play.

• CodeWizardsHQ: Fortnite Parental Controls

Discusses best practices for Fortnite safety, including open conversations with your child, regular monitoring, and keeping Fortnite and its mods up-to-date.

• Fortnite: The Complete Parent Guide - Protect Young Eyes

Highlights the importance of modifying privacy and online safety settings for child accounts and provides guidance on setting up parental controls.

By utilizing these resources and guides, you can effectively manage your child's Fortnite experience, ensuring it remains a safe and enjoyable activity.