How to Set Up Family Link on Android

Description

How to Set Up Family Link on Android: A Step-by-Step Guide

Googleâ??s **Family Link** is a powerful parental control tool that helps parents manage their childrenâ??s digital activities on Android devices. With Family Link, you can set screen time limits, approve or block apps, monitor device usage, and even track location. This guide provides a **detailed, step-by-step process** for setting up Family Link on an Android device.

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What You Need Before Setting Up Family Link

Before starting, ensure you have the following:

â? **A Google Account for the parent** (must be 18+)
â? **A Google Account for the child** (or create one during setup)
â? **An Android device for the parent** (running Android 5.0 or later)
â? **An Android device for the child** (running Android 7.0 or later)
â? **The Family Link app** (download from the Google Play Store)
â? **An active internet connection**

Step 1: Download and Install Family Link

1. **On the parentâ??s device**, open the **Google Play Store**.
2. Search for **â??Google Family Link for parentsâ?•** and install the app.
3. **On the childâ??s device**, search for **â??Google Family Link for children & teensâ?•** and install it.

(Note: If the childâ??s device is new, Family Link may already be pre-installed.)

Step 2: Set Up Family Link on the Parentâ??s Device

1. **Open the Family Link app** on the parentâ??s phone.
2. Tap **â??Get Startedâ?•** and select **â??Parentâ?•**.
3. Sign in with your **Google Account** (the one you want to use for supervision).

4. Tap **â??Nextâ?•** and follow the on-screen instructions to **create a family group** (if you donâ??t already have one).
5. Select **â??Add a Childâ?•** and choose whether your child already has a Google Account or needs a new one.

Step 3: Set Up the Childâ??s Google Account (If Needed)

If your child **does not** have a Google Account:
1. Tap **â??Create a Google Account for your childâ?•**.
2. Enter the childâ??s **first and last name**, then tap **â??Nextâ?•**.
3. Provide their **birthdate and gender**, then tap **â??Nextâ?•**.
4. Choose a **Gmail username** (or let Google suggest one).
5. Create a **strong password** and confirm it.
6. Review Googleâ??s **Privacy Policy and Terms of Service**, then tap **â??Agreeâ?•**.
7. Enter the **parentâ??s email** for account recovery and tap **â??Nextâ?•**.
8. Follow the prompts to **verify parental consent** (via email or credit card, if required).

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If your child **already has a Google Account**:
1. Enter their **email address** and tap **â??Nextâ?•**.
2. Follow the prompts to **verify parental consent**.

Step 4: Link the Childâ??s Device to Family Link

1. **On the childâ??s device**, open the **Family Link app** (or go to **Settings > Google > Parental controls**).
2. Tap **â??Get Startedâ?•** and select **â??Child or Teenâ?•**.
3. Sign in with the **childâ??s Google Account**.
4. The app will ask for **parental permission**â??tap **â??Nextâ?•** on the parentâ??s device to approve.
5. On the childâ??s device, tap **â??Joinâ?•** to confirm the link.
6. Follow the prompts to **set up supervision** (this may include enabling location tracking and app approvals).

Step 5: Configure Parental Controls

Once the devices are linked, you can customize settings:

1. Set Screen Time Limits

- Open **Family Link** on the parentâ??s device.
- Select the **childâ??s account**.
- Tap **â??Controlsâ?• > â??Daily limitâ?•**.

- Set a **daily screen time limit** (e.g., 2 hours).
- Choose **â??Bedtimeâ?•** to restrict device usage during sleep hours.

2. Manage App Permissions

- Go to **â??Controlsâ?• > â??App limitsâ?•**.
- Select an app and set a **daily usage limit**.
- To **block an app**, go to **â??Controlsâ?• > â??Apps installedâ?•** and toggle off the app.

3. Approve or Block Apps

- When the child tries to download an app, youâ??ll get a **notification** on your device.
- Open **Family Link**, go to **â??Controlsâ?• > â??Apps installedâ?•**, and approve or deny the request.

4. Filter Web Content

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- Go to **â??Controlsâ?• > â??Filters on Google Chromeâ?•**.
- Choose **â??Try to block mature sitesâ?•** or **â??Only allow certain sitesâ?•**.
- Add **approved websites** under **â??Manage sitesâ?•**.

5. Track Location

- Ensure **location services** are enabled on the childâ??s device.
- In **Family Link**, go to **â??Locationâ?•** to see the childâ??s real-time location.

6. Set Up Purchase Approvals

- Go to **â??Controlsâ?• > â??Purchase approvalsâ?•**.
- Enable **â??Require approval for all purchasesâ?•** to prevent unauthorized downloads.

Step 6: Monitor Activity & Adjust Settings

- Open **Family Link** on the parentâ??s device.
- Select the **childâ??s account** to view:
- **Screen time reports**
- **Most-used apps**
- **Location history**
- **App installation requests**
- Adjust settings as needed based on usage patterns.

Step 7: Unlinking or Removing Supervision

If you no longer need Family Link:
1. Open **Family Link** on the parentâ??s device.
2. Select the **childâ??s account**.
3. Tap **â??Manage settingsâ?• > â??Account infoâ?• > â??Delete accountâ?•**.
4. Follow the prompts to **remove supervision**.

(Note: If the child is under 13, their Google Account will be deleted unless you transfer it to a regular account.)

Troubleshooting Common Issues

â•? **Family Link not working?**
â?? Ensure both devices have **internet access**.
â?? Update the **Family Link app** to the latest version.
â?? Restart both devices.

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â•? **Childâ??s device not showing up?**
â?? Check if the child is signed in with the **correct Google Account**.
â?? Ensure **location services** are enabled.

â•? **App approvals not working?**
â?? Make sure **notifications** are enabled for Family Link.
â?? Check if the childâ??s device has **pending updates**.

Final Thoughts

Google Family Link is an **essential tool** for parents who want to **monitor and manage their childâ??s digital habits** effectively. By following this guide, you can **set up parental controls, limit screen time, block inappropriate content, and track location**â??all from your own device.

For the best results, **regularly review activity reports** and adjust settings as your child grows. With Family Link, you can help them develop **healthy digital habits** while keeping them safe online.

Category

1. Uncategorized

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