How can I be a good digital citizen?

At this moment, you're most likely to be interacting with someone on social media or listening to music through a streaming service. If that is so, you're probably already a Digital Citizen.

One definition of Digital Citizen is *"someone who uses the internet regularly and effectively."* However, that isn't enough to be a good digital citizen. Digital citizenship also refers to how we conduct ourselves on the web and includes certain aspects, such as the amount of time we spend on digital media or how much we know about our rights on the web. Let's read about these 10 aspects of digital citizenship to have a better definition of the term.

10 aspects of digital citizenship

1 digital _____:

Not everyone has the same opportunities when it comes to technology. It's very important to understand that access to digital technology is not always fairly distributed, and that we can help promote equity as the digital citizens that we are. We need to make sure that no one is denied digital access so that there is full electronic participation in society.

2 digital _____:

Traditionally, literacy refers to the ability to read and write. When applied to the digital world, a digitally literate person is one who has learned to create, communicate, and share digital content. A good digital citizen knows how to "read" the digital environment, keeping up to the new technologies, using them appropriately, and thinking critically about their impications.

3 digital _____ & _____:

Basic digital rights must be discussed and understood in the digital world, like the right to privacy and free speech. Every digital citizen should fight for the universalization of these rights extended to everyone in the digital world. However, with these rights also come responsibilities. In a digital society, these two areas must work together.

4 digital _____:

This is also called "Netiquette." Part of being a digital citizen means treating others with politeness, kindness, and respect during all kinds of interactions. It also involves speaking up when others are being rude or inappropriate.

5 digital _____:

It is important to deal with the ethics of technology within a society. For example, there are laws about downloading illegal music, plagiarism, creating viruses, stealing anyone's identity or property, etc. Hurting others or their work is a crime which can result in criminal penalties or civil liability. Besides, digital law is constantly changing, so it is important to stay up-to-date with current legislation.

6 digital _____:

Nowadays, we're constantly communicating with other people online. When we use chatting platforms, it's important to speak up for ourselves and actively listen to others while communication in an appropriate and meaningful way. And remember, empathy is essential!

7 digital _____:

Since we spend so much time on the web, we should learn how to keep ourselves safe and protected online. This includes protecting our data or private information using virus protection and firewalls. Another key part of digital safety is using our common sense at the moment of sharing our personal information online.

8 digital _____:

Since many people are selling and buying through the internet, a good portion of the economy is regulated online. We need to be cautious and aware of the dangers of e-commerce, such as using credit cards online or engaging in illegal transactions. Part of being a digital citizen means becoming a sensible, ethical, and critical consumer.

9 digital _____ & _____:

Keeping psychological and physical health and well-being in a digital technology world is essential. The extended use of technology can bring eye fatigue, backache, stress and online addiction, among other problems. We need to take care of ourselves and our digital health and wellness.

10 digital _____:

Every time we go online we leave a trail, just like we leave a real footprint. This trail includes information about the websites we visit, emails we send, and data we submit to online services. This is called a "passive footprint" because it is unintentional. An "active footprint" is what we intentionally do online, like posting a status, or even "liking" someone else's posts. We should be aware of our digital footprint because once digital data has been shared online, there is no guarantee that we will ever be able to delete it.

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