🌈 Pryde Social — Security

Last Updated: December 28, 2024

🔒 1. Overview

At Pryde Social, we take your security seriously. This page outlines the technical and organizational measures we implement to protect your data and ensure a safe platform for the LGBTQ+ community.

Our commitment: We use industry-standard security practices to safeguard your personal information, prevent unauthorized access, and maintain the integrity of our platform.

🛡️ 2. Data Encryption

A. Encryption in Transit

- **HTTPS/TLS:** All data transmitted between your device and our servers is encrypted using TLS 1.2 or higher
- **Secure WebSockets:** Real-time features (messaging, notifications) use encrypted WebSocket connections (WSS)
- **API Security:** All API endpoints require secure HTTPS connections

B. Encryption at Rest

- **Password Hashing:** Passwords are hashed using bcrypt with salt rounds (never stored in plain text)

- **File Storage:** Uploaded media files are stored securely with access controls

🔐 3. Authentication & Access Control

A. Account Security

- **Secure Login:** JWT (JSON Web Token) based authentication with expiration
- **Session Management:** Automatic session timeout after inactivity
- **Password Requirements:** Minimum 8 characters with complexity requirements
- **Account Recovery:** Secure password reset via email verification

B. Access Controls

- **Role-Based Access:** Users can only access their own data and public content
- **Privacy Controls:** Granular privacy settings for posts, profile, and visibility
- **Blocking & Reporting:** Tools to block users and report inappropriate content

🖥️ 4. Infrastructure Security

A. Hosting & Servers

- **Cloud Infrastructure:** Hosted on secure, reputable cloud providers (Render)
- **Server Hardening:** Regular security updates and patches
- **Firewall Protection:** Network-level firewalls to prevent unauthorized access
- **DDoS Protection:** Cloudflare protection against distributed denial-of-service attacks

B. Database Security

- **MongoDB Security:** Authentication required, IP whitelisting, encrypted

- **Regular Backups:** Automated daily backups with encryption
- **Access Logging:** All database access is logged and monitored

👁 5. Privacy & Data Protection

A. Data Minimization

- We only collect data necessary for platform functionality
- Optional fields remain optional (gender, orientation, location, etc.)
- You control what information is visible on your profile

B. Private Messages

- **Privacy:** Private messages are not monitored or read by staff
- **Access:** Messages are only accessed when reported for safety/legal reasons
- **Retention:** Messages are stored securely and can be deleted by users

See our **Privacy Policy** and **Terms of Service** for more details.

🚨 6. Threat Detection & Prevention

A. Automated Security

- **Rate Limiting:** Protection against brute force attacks and spam
- **Input Validation:** All user input is sanitized to prevent injection attacks
- **XSS Protection:** Cross-site scripting prevention measures
- **CSRF Protection:** Cross-site request forgery tokens on all forms

B. Content Moderation

- **Reporting System:** Users can report inappropriate content, harassment, or

- **Review Process:** Reported content is reviewed by moderators
- **Account Actions:** Warnings, suspensions, or bans for policy violations

🔄 7. Security Monitoring & Incident Response

A. Continuous Monitoring

- **Server Monitoring:** 24/7 automated monitoring of server health and security
- **Error Tracking:** Automated error logging and alerting
- **Access Logs:** All authentication attempts and admin actions are logged
- **Anomaly Detection:** Unusual activity patterns trigger alerts

B. Incident Response

- **Response Team:** Dedicated team to handle security incidents
- **Breach Notification:** Users will be notified within 72 hours of any data breach
- **Investigation:** All security incidents are investigated and documented
- **Remediation:** Immediate action to patch vulnerabilities and prevent recurrence

👤 8. User Account Security

A. Best Practices for Users

- **Strong Passwords:** Use unique, complex passwords (minimum 8 characters)
- **Don't Share Credentials:** Never share your password with anyone
- **Logout on Shared Devices:** Always log out when using public/shared computers
- **Verify Links:** Be cautious of phishing attempts - we'll never ask for your password via email

- **Report Suspicious Activity:** Contact us immediately if you notice unauthorized access

B. Account Recovery

- **Email Verification:** Password resets require email verification

- **Secure Reset Links:** Reset links expire after 1 hour

- **Account Support:** Contact us at **prydeapp-team@outlook.com** for account issues

🌍 9. Third-Party Security

A. Service Providers

We carefully vet all third-party services we use:

- **Hosting:** Render (secure cloud infrastructure)

- **CDN:** Cloudflare (DDoS protection, SSL/TLS)

- **Email:** Secure email service providers for notifications

- **Media Storage:** Secure cloud storage with encryption

B. No Data Selling

- We **never sell** your data to third parties

- We **never share** your data with advertisers

- Third-party services are used only for platform functionality

🔧 10. Security Updates & Maintenance

A. Regular Updates

- **Security Patches:** Critical security patches applied immediately

- **Vulnerability Scanning:** Regular scans for known vulnerabilities

- **Code Reviews:** Security-focused code reviews before deployment

B. Maintenance Windows

- Scheduled maintenance is announced in advance when possible

- Emergency security updates may be applied without notice

- Downtime is minimized to ensure platform availability

⚠️ 11. LGBTQ+ Safety Considerations

A. Privacy for High-Risk Users

We understand that LGBTQ+ individuals in certain regions face unique safety risks. Our **Safety Center** provides:

- **Location Privacy:** Option to hide or disable location sharing

- **Online Status:** Option to hide online status and last seen

- **Profile Visibility:** Control who can see your profile and posts

- **Anonymous Browsing:** Browse without revealing your identity

B. Safety Warnings

Our Safety Center includes specific warnings for LGBTQ+ individuals in high-risk regions about:

- Not using real names or photos if unsafe

- Disabling location services

- Using privacy settings to limit visibility

- Being cautious about sharing personal information

📋 12. Compliance & Standards

A. Legal Compliance

- **Australian Privacy Principles:** Operated in compliance with Australian privacy laws

- **GDPR Considerations:** Respecting data protection principles for international users

- **Age Verification:** Users under 18 are automatically banned (full birthday required at signup)

- **Content Responsibility:** Users are responsible for ensuring uploaded media involves consenting adults

B. Industry Standards

- Following OWASP (Open Web Application Security Project) guidelines

- Implementing security best practices for web applications

- Regular security audits and assessments

🐛 13. Vulnerability Disclosure

A. Responsible Disclosure

If you discover a security vulnerability, please report it responsibly:

- **Email: prydeapp-team@outlook.com** with subject "Security Vulnerability"

- **Include:** Detailed description, steps to reproduce, and potential impact

- **Do Not:** Publicly disclose the vulnerability before we've had time to fix it

- **Response Time:** We aim to respond within 48 hours

B. Bug Bounty

platform security.

📞 14. Contact & Support

A. Security Concerns

If you have security concerns or questions:

> 📧 **Email: prydeapp-team@outlook.com**
>
> **Subject Line:** "Security Inquiry" or "Security Vulnerability"

B. Related Resources

- **Privacy Policy** - How we handle your data

- **Terms of Service** - Platform rules and responsibilities

- **Safety Center** - LGBTQ+ safety resources and tips

- **Community Guidelines** - Expected behavior on the platform

- **Acceptable Use Policy** - Prohibited activities

🔄 15. Updates to This Policy

We may update this Security page as we implement new security measures or in response to changing threats. Material changes will be communicated via:

- Platform notifications

- Email to registered users

- Updated "Last Updated" date at the top of this page

Pryde Social

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Contact

Pryde Social is for users 18+ only. By using this platform, you confirm you are 18 years of age or older.