ENCOMPASS

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Privacy Policy

Effective Date: 08 June 2023

This Privacy Policy describes how Encompass ("we," "us," or "our") collects, uses, stores, and protects the personal information of users ("you" or "your") who use the Encompass application ("App") and its related services. By using the App, you consent to the data practices described in this policy.

**1. Information We Collect**

1.1 Personal Information

We may collect personal information from you when you register an account, update your profile, interact with communities, post content, or communicate with other users. The types of personal information we may collect include:

- Name

- Email address

- Username

- Profile picture

- Interests and preferences

- Community memberships

- Communications with other users

1.2 Usage Information

We may collect usage information automatically when you use the App. This information may include:

- IP address

- Device information (such as device type, operating system, and browser type)

- Log data (such as access times, pages viewed, and interactions)

- Cookies and similar technologies

**2. Use of Information**

2.1 Personal Information

We use the personal information we collect to:

- Provide and improve the App's features and functionality

- Customize your user experience

- Communicate with you regarding your account, communities, and posts

- Send you updates, newsletters, and promotional materials (with your consent)

- Respond to your inquiries and provide customer support

- Enforce our Terms of Service and community guidelines

- Prevent fraud and ensure the security of the App

2.2 Usage Information

We use the usage information we collect to:

- Analyze App usage and trends

- Diagnose and fix technical issues

- Improve the performance and functionality of the App

- Personalize and optimize user experiences

- Deliver relevant content, recommendations, and advertisements

**3. Sharing of Information**

We may share your information in the following circumstances:

- With other users within communities as part of App functionality

- With service providers and partners who assist us in delivering the App's features and services

- With your consent or at your direction

- To comply with legal obligations or protect our rights, safety, or property

- In connection with a merger, acquisition, or sale of assets, with appropriate safeguards to protect your information

**4. Data Retention**

We retain your personal information for as long as necessary to fulfill the purposes outlined in this Privacy Policy, unless a longer retention period is required or permitted by law. We will also retain and use your information as necessary to comply with our legal obligations, resolve disputes, and enforce our agreements.

**5. Data Security**

We implement industry-standard security measures to protect your personal information from unauthorized access, alteration, disclosure, or destruction. However, please note that no method of transmission or storage is 100% secure, and we cannot guarantee the absolute security of your information.

**6. Third-Party Links and Services**

The App may contain links to third-party websites, services, or advertisements that are not owned or controlled by us. We are not responsible for the privacy practices of these third parties. We encourage you to review their privacy policies and practices before interacting with them.

**7. Children's Privacy**

The App is not intended for individuals under the age of 13. We do not knowingly collect personal information from children under 13. If we learn that we have collected personal information from a child under 13, we will take appropriate steps to delete the information as soon as possible. If you believe that we may have collected personal information from a child under 13, please contact us using the information provided in Section 9.

**8. Your Rights and Choices**

You have certain rights regarding your personal information, including the right to access, correct, or delete your information. You may also have the right to object to or restrict certain processing activities or request the portability of your information. To exercise these rights, please contact us using the information provided in Section 9.

**9. Contact Us**

If you have any questions, concerns, or requests regarding this Privacy Policy or our privacy practices, please contact us at:

Email: <perfectstrangers.tuks@gmail.com>

GitHub: [Encompass Project](https://github.com/COS301-SE-2023/Encompass)

We may update this Privacy Policy from time to time. The most current version will be posted on the App. Please review this Privacy Policy periodically for any changes.

By using the App, you signify your acceptance of this Privacy Policy.

**Perfect Strangers**

**(Developers of Encompass)**

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