

# The Twitter Rules

Submitted Jan 14 by **crystal**

Our goal is to provide a service that allows you to discover and receive content from sources that interest you as well as to share your content with others. We respect the ownership of the content that users share and each user is responsible for the content he or she provides. Because of these principles, we do not actively monitor user's content and will not censor user content, except in limited circumstances described below.

## Content Boundaries and Use of Twitter

In order to provide the Twitter service and the ability to communicate and stay connected with others, there are some limitations on the type of content that can be published with Twitter. These limitations comply with legal requirements and make Twitter a better experience for all. We may need to change these rules from time to time and reserve the right to do so. Please check back here to see the latest.

**\*Impersonation:** You may not impersonate others through the Twitter service in a manner that does or is intended to mislead, confuse, or deceive others

**\* Trademark:** We reserve the right to reclaim user names on behalf of businesses or individuals that hold legal claim or trademark on those user names. Accounts using business names and/or logos to mislead others will be permanently suspended.

**\*Privacy:** You may not publish or post other people's private and confidential information, such as credit card numbers, street address or Social Security/National Identity numbers, without their express authorization and permission.

**\*Violence and Threats:** You may not publish or post direct, specific threats of violence against others. **\*Copyright:** We will respond to clear and complete notices of alleged copyright infringement. Our copyright

procedures are set forth in the Terms of Service.

**\*Unlawful Use:** You may not use our service for any unlawful purposes or for promotion of illegal activities. International users agree to comply with all local laws regarding online conduct and acceptable content.

**\*Verified accounts:** You may not use the Verified Account badge unless it is provided by Twitter. Accounts using the badge as part of profile pictures, background images, or in any way implying false verification will be permanently suspended.

## Spam and Abuse

Twitter strives to protect its users from spam and abuse. Technical abuse and user abuse is not tolerated on Twitter.com, and will result in permanent suspension. Any

accounts engaging in the activities specified below are subject to permanent suspension.

**\* Serial Accounts:** You may not create serial accounts for disruptive or abusive purposes. Mass account creation will result in suspension of all accounts.

**\* Name Squatting:** You may not engage in name squatting. Accounts that are inactive for more than 6 months may also be removed without further notice. Some of the factors that we take into account when determining what conduct is considered to be name squatting are:

the number of accounts created

creating accounts for the purpose of preventing others from using those account names

creating accounts for the purpose of selling those accounts

using feeds of third-party content to update and maintain accounts under the names of those third parties

**\*Invitation spam:** You may not use Twitter.com's address book contact import to send repeat, mass invitations **\*Selling user names:** Unless you have been specifically permitted to do so in a separate agreement with Twitter, you

agree that you will not reproduce, duplicate, copy, sell, trade or resell the Services for any purpose.

Where "Services" is defined as follows: Your use of Twitter's products, services and web sites (referred to collectively as the "Services" in this document and excluding any services provided to you by Twitter under a separate written agreement) is subject to the terms of a legal agreement between you and Twitter.

**\*Malware/Phishing:** You may not publish or link to malicious content intended to damage or disrupt another user's browser or computer or to compromise a user's privacy.

**\*Spam:** You may not use the Twitter service for the purpose of spamming anyone. What constitutes "spamming" will evolve as we respond to new tricks and tactics by spammers. Some of the factors that we take into account when determining what conduct is considered to be spamming are:

If you have followed a large amount of users in a short amount of time;

If you have followed and unfollowed people in a short time period, particularly by automated means (aggressive follower churn);

If you repeatedly follow and unfollow people, whether to build followers or to garner more attention for your profile;

If you have a small number of followers compared to the amount of people you are following; If your updates consist mainly of links, and not personal updates;

If a large number of people are blocking you;

The number of spam complaints that have been filed against you;

If you post duplicate content over multiple accounts or multiple duplicate updates on one account  
If you post multiple unrelated updates to a topic using #  
If you post multiple unrelated updates to a trending or popular topic  
If you send large numbers of duplicate @replies

If you send large numbers of unsolicited @replies in an attempt to spam a service or link  
If you repost other user's content without attribution.

If you have attempted to "sell" followers, particularly through tactics considered aggressive following or follower churn.

Using or promoting third-party sites that claim to get you more followers (such as follower trains, sites promising "more followers fast," or any other site that offers to automatically add followers to your account).

Your account may be suspended for Terms of Service violations if any of the above is true; accounts created to replace suspended accounts will be permanently suspended.

**\*Pornography:** You may not use obscene or pornographic images in either your profile picture or user background.

**Accounts engaging in any of these behaviors may be investigated for abuse. Accounts under investigation may be removed from Search for quality. Twitter reserves the right to immediately terminate your account without further notice in the event that, in its judgment, you violate these Rules or the Terms of Service.**

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If you send large numbers of duplicate @replies  
If you send large numbers of unsolicited @replies in an attempt to spam a service or link  
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