

Terms and Conditions

Last updated: 11 May 2025

1. Acceptance of the Terms

By accessing or using *FlamesAI* (the “**Service**”) you agree to be bound by these Terms and Conditions (the “**Terms**”). If you do not accept all of the Terms, do not use the Service.

2. Definitions

- “**Service**” – the connection-finding website, web APIs, and any associated mobile or desktop applications branded as *FlamesAI*.
 - “**User**,” “**you**,” “**your**” – an individual who creates an account, connects a Reddit profile, or otherwise uses the Service.
 - “**Reddit Data**” – public Reddit content (posts, comments, karma, username, and profile metadata) that you explicitly authorize *FlamesAI* to access via Reddit’s official API, along with any additional data you voluntarily provide.
 - “**Supabase Database**” – the managed PostgreSQL instance operated by Supabase in which Reddit Data and related Service data are stored.
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3. Eligibility

You must be at least **16 years old** (or the age of digital consent in your jurisdiction, whichever is higher) and legally capable of entering into binding contracts to use the Service. If you are under 18, you represent that you have obtained parental or guardian consent. **Children under 13 are strictly prohibited** from using the Service (COPPA compliance).

4. Description of the Service

FlamesAI leverages machine-learning models (the “**AI**”) to analyze Reddit Data and introduce you to other Users whose interests and online behavior appear compatible. You can review suggested connections, initiate contact, and exchange messages through the Service, which is currently in **beta**—features may change or break without notice.

5. Account Registration & Security

- Browsing limited portions of the Service is possible without an account; full functionality requires registering with a valid email address and linking at least one Reddit account through OAuth.
- You are responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of your login credentials and for all activities that occur under your account.

6. Collection, Storage & Use of Reddit Data

1. **User Consent** – The Service will not access or store Reddit Data without your explicit OAuth authorization.
2. **Data Scope** – Only endpoints you authorize are retrieved (e.g., upvoted posts, public comments). **Private messages are never accessed.**
3. **Storage** – Reddit Data is encrypted in transit (TLS) and stored in the Supabase Database **currently hosted in us-east-1 (United States)** with AES-256 encryption at rest.
4. **Purpose** – Reddit Data is processed solely to:
 - generate compatibility scores;
 - surface recommended connections; and
 - improve the Service through aggregate, anonymized analytics.
5. **Deletion** – You may trigger full deletion of your Reddit Data at any time from **Settings** → **Privacy** → **Delete My Data**. We delete active-store data immediately and propagate deletions to production backups **within 30 days (usually much sooner)**. Certain minimal logs (e.g., fraud-prevention, security audit) may be retained for up to 180 days.
6. **No Sale** – We do **not** sell Reddit Data to third parties or use it for targeted advertising.

GDPR / CCPA Notice. Users in the EEA/UK and California have additional rights (access, portability, deletion, restriction, and opt-out of “sale”/“sharing”). See our Privacy Policy and **Data Processing Addendum (DPA)** for details and controller/processor roles.

7. AI Processing, Fairness & Limitations

- Our matching and explanation features rely on large language models supplied by OpenAI (e.g., ChatGPT) and Google Gemini. These systems operate probabilistically and may occasionally generate inaccurate or biased content.
- **Bias & Fairness.** We continuously audit model outputs for bias and welcome user feedback to improve fairness.

- **No Professional Advice.** Recommendations are for informational purposes only and are **not** a substitute for professional counseling.
 - **Model Feedback Loop.** Unless you opt-out in Settings, anonymized interaction data may be used to improve our models. We never share personally identifiable Reddit Data with model providers.
 - **Warranty Disclaimer.** *FlamesAI* makes no guarantees regarding the accuracy, suitability, or outcome of any connection suggestions; you rely on them at your own risk and discretion.
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8. User Conduct

You agree not to:

1. Violate any applicable laws, Reddit's Content Policy, or these Terms.
 2. Upload malware, attempt to reverse-engineer, or disrupt the Service.
 3. Harass, defraud, or harm other Users; engage in hate speech or discrimination.
 4. Use scraped, stolen, or purchased Reddit accounts.
 5. Sell, trade, or transfer your *FlamesAI* account. **One-strike permanent bans** may apply for serious violations.
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9. Intellectual Property

- **Your Content.** You retain all ownership rights to Reddit Data and any content you create within the Service. By uploading or linking content, you grant *FlamesAI* a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license to use, display, and analyze such content **solely** to operate and improve the Service. We may retain aggregated or anonymized derivatives after account deletion.
 - **Service IP.** All trademarks, software, and other intellectual property in the Service are owned by *FlamesAI* or its licensors.
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10. Third-Party Services & Reddit Disclaimer

FlamesAI is **not** affiliated with, endorsed, or sponsored by Reddit, Inc. Your use of Reddit is governed by Reddit's own Terms of Service and Privacy Policy. Supabase, Inc. provides hosting and storage; its terms apply independently.

11. Privacy

Our **Privacy Policy** (available at </privacy>) describes how we collect, use, and safeguard personal information. It is incorporated into these Terms by reference.

12. Copyright Complaints

If you believe content hosted on the Service infringes your copyright, please email vkupp@uic.edu with the subject line "Copyright Complaint." Your notice should include:

1. Your contact information;
2. A description of the copyrighted work you claim is infringed;
3. The URL or location of the allegedly infringing material;
4. A statement that you have a good-faith belief the use is unauthorized; and
5. A statement made under penalty of perjury that the information in your notice is accurate and that you are the copyright owner or authorized to act on the owner's behalf.

We will promptly investigate and, where appropriate, remove or disable access to the material.

13. Disclaimers

THE SERVICE IS PROVIDED "**AS IS**" AND "**AS AVAILABLE.**" WE DISCLAIM ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND NON-INFRINGEMENT. WE DO NOT WARRANT THAT THE SERVICE WILL BE UNINTERRUPTED, SECURE, OR ERROR-FREE.

14. Limitation of Liability

TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW, **FLAMESAI**, ITS OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, OR PUNITIVE DAMAGES, OR ANY LOSS OF PROFITS OR DATA, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE SERVICE, EVEN IF ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. OUR AGGREGATE LIABILITY WILL NOT EXCEED **USD 100** OR THE AMOUNT YOU PAID (IF ANY) IN THE PRECEDING 12 MONTHS.

15. Indemnification

You agree to indemnify and hold harmless *FlamesAI* and its affiliates from any claims, damages, or expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from your breach of these Terms or misuse of the Service.

16. Termination

We may suspend or terminate your access to the Service at any time for violation of these Terms or if required by law. Upon termination, your license to use the Service ends immediately, but Sections 9–19 shall survive.

17. Changes to the Terms

We may modify these Terms by posting an updated version and notifying you via email or in-product notice **at least 7 days** before changes take effect. Continued use after the effective date constitutes acceptance of the revised Terms.

18. Governing Law, Arbitration & Dispute Resolution

- These Terms are governed by the laws of the **State of Delaware, USA**, without regard to conflict-of-law provisions.
 - **Binding Arbitration.** Except for claims that may be brought in small-claims court, any dispute arising under these Terms will be settled by final, binding arbitration administered by the **American Arbitration Association (AAA)** under its Consumer Arbitration Rules. The arbitration venue will be Wilmington, Delaware, unless you elect tele- or video-conference. You may opt-out of arbitration by sending written notice to legal@flamesai.com within 30 days of first accepting these Terms.
 - Either party may seek injunctive relief in any court of competent jurisdiction to prevent actual or threatened infringement, misuse, or violation of intellectual-property rights.
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19. Miscellaneous

1. **Severability.** If any provision of these Terms is held unenforceable, the remaining provisions will remain in effect.

2. **Assignment.** You may not assign or transfer your rights or obligations under these Terms without our prior written consent; we may assign these Terms in connection with a merger, acquisition, or sale of assets.
3. **Waiver.** Failure to enforce any right or provision of these Terms is not a waiver of future enforcement.
4. **Entire Agreement.** These Terms (including the Privacy Policy and any linked documents) constitute the entire agreement between you and *FlamesAI* regarding the Service and supersede all prior agreements.
5. **Force Majeure.** We are not liable for delays or failures caused by events beyond our reasonable control.

20. Contact Us

For questions about these Terms or your rights, contact:

Support: vkupp@uic.edu
