

Why it's important to set up "Legacy contacts" for Facebook and Apple. If you have trouble logging into your Facebook or Apple account after forgetting the password, think of how difficult it will be for a trusted friend or family member to do it if something happens to you? Photos might be lost forever and hackers can target those accounts with spam or worse. I'm looking at how to set up legacy contacts for Facebook and Apple accounts.

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SUPER:

0-8 Jamey Tucker/whatthetech.tv

ON-CAMERA TEASE

We all know how hard it is to get into a Facebook or Apple account if we forget the password. If something happens to you, how will your family get those photos and access the account? I'm Jamey Tucker coming up with something you should do...just in case.

ANCHOR INTRO

PRIVACY AND SECURITY OF OUR ONLINE ACCOUNTS ARE OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO US. WE ALL WANT TO LOCK DOWN OUR FACEBOOK ACCOUNT TO KEEP SOMEONE FROM GAINING ACCESS TO IT.

THE DOWNSIDE IS THAT IT MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR SOMEONE YOU TRUST TO HAVE ACCESS TO THE ACCOUNTS IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU. OUR CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY REPORTER JAMEY TUCKER SAYS IT'S IMPORTANT TO TAKE A FEW STEPS TO ENSURE MEMORIES AND INFORMATION AREN'T LOST FOREVER.

PACKAGE SCRIPT

If you forget your Facebook or Apple username and password, you know how difficult it is to get logged back in. Both companies take security very seriously.

When someone passes away, it's very difficult for a family member to gain access to the accounts unless you take a few steps ahead of time.

Apple allows users to set up what it calls "Legacy contacts". You'll find it in settings under password and security. Select your contacts and send them a QR code as an access key. Should you pass away, they can use the QR code and a copy of the death certificate to request access to photos and other data they can download from the iCloud account. You can also print out the QR code and leave it in your estate planning documents.

With Facebook, there's an option for anyone to set up "legacy contacts". Setting this up gives someone limited access to your account in the event something happens to you. And this is important. If you pass away, your legacy contact can memorialize your Facebook profile or have the account removed. They can also access and download photos from the account.

If the Facebook profile is not memorialized, hackers can target it for spreading spam, or flooding the page with inappropriate content. Again, the settings for Apple and Facebook must be set up ahead of time and by the account owner.

You may have thousands of photos on your phone, the iCloud, and even more on Facebook. Memories that are treasured by friends and family. If you leave them behind. that's what the tech, I'm Jamey Tucker

ANCHOR TAG

BY SOME REPORTS OVER 30 MILLION FACEBOOK ACCOUNTS BELONG TO PEOPLE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY AND, IF FACEBOOK IS STILL AROUND IN 30 YEARS, ACCOUNTS OWNED BY DECEASED PEOPLE WILL OUTNUMBER LIVING USERS.

WEB STORY

We demand a high level of privacy and security for our online accounts. No one wants someone else to have access to their Facebook or Apple accounts. Users are urged to not only have strong and unique passwords but also 2-factor authentication to prevent someone from gaining access to the account.

How difficult is it to login to a Facebook or Apple account if you've forgotten the password? Many people find it so difficult they just start a new account.

Losing access to your digital accounts can be frustrating, but have you ever considered what happens to your online presence after you pass away? With the rise of digital assets, it's crucial to ensure that your memories and information aren't lost forever. Here's how technology is stepping up to address this concern.

Apple understands the importance of preserving your digital legacy. That's why they've introduced the "Legacy Contact" feature. Found in the settings under 'Password and Security,' this option allows you to designate individuals who can access your iCloud data posthumously.

By sending your chosen contacts a QR code, they'll have the key to unlock your digital memories. In the event of your passing, they can present this code along with a death certificate to access and download photos and other data from your iCloud account. It's a good idea to print out this QR code and include it in your estate planning documents for safekeeping.

Facebook also offers a solution with its “Legacy Contact” option. By setting this up, you grant a trusted person limited access to your account should something happen to you. This foresight is vital. Upon your demise, your legacy contact can choose to either memorialize your profile or request its removal. They’ll also be able to download cherished photos, safeguarding your digital memories.

An unmaintained Facebook profile can become a target for hackers, leading to spam or inappropriate content tarnishing your digital memory. Without a legacy contact, your loved ones may struggle to access or deactivate your account.

To ensure your digital assets are handled according to your wishes, it’s essential to set up these features well in advance—and only you, the account owner, can do this. Consider the wealth of memories stored on your phone, iCloud, and Facebook. These aren’t just files; they’re precious moments shared with friends and family. By planning, you can ensure that these treasures are preserved and passed on.

Remember, in the tech world, being proactive about your digital afterlife is just as important as managing your online presence today. Don’t leave your digital legacy to chance.