

how to delete people from linkedin

Navigating Your Network: A Comprehensive Guide on How to Delete People From LinkedIn

how to delete people from linkedin, a common query for professionals managing their online presence, is a crucial skill for maintaining a curated and relevant network. Whether you're looking to remove outdated connections, individuals with whom you no longer interact professionally, or simply wish to streamline your network, understanding the process is key. This guide will walk you through the step-by-step procedures for deleting connections on LinkedIn, as well as exploring related actions like removing followers and managing who sees your network. We will delve into the nuances of connection removal, the implications of such actions, and provide clear, actionable instructions to ensure you can confidently manage your professional relationships on the platform. This comprehensive resource aims to empower you with the knowledge to effectively control your LinkedIn network, keeping it aligned with your career goals and professional image.

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Understanding LinkedIn Connections

LinkedIn connections form the foundation of your professional network on the platform. These are individuals with whom you have a direct or indirect professional relationship, and who have accepted your connection request or have connected with you. Having a strong and relevant network can open doors to new opportunities, facilitate knowledge sharing, and provide valuable insights into your industry. LinkedIn's algorithm often considers the strength and relevance of your connections when suggesting content, job openings, and potential collaborations. Therefore, actively managing who is in your network is a proactive step in career development.

The platform differentiates between different types of network interactions. Primarily, you have "connections," which are reciprocal relationships. You can see their profile, and they can see yours. Beyond direct connections, there are individuals who "follow" you. When someone follows you, they receive updates from your activity and posts in their feed, but you do not necessarily see their updates unless they are also a connection or you choose to follow them back. Understanding these distinctions is important before considering actions like deleting people from LinkedIn.

Why You Might Want to Delete a LinkedIn Connection

There are several valid reasons why a professional might decide to delete people from LinkedIn. One common scenario is when a connection is no longer relevant to your current career path or industry. As your professional journey evolves, some past colleagues, acquaintances, or individuals you connected with for a specific, short-term purpose may no longer add value to your network. Maintaining a focused network can improve the quality of relevant updates and opportunities you see on the platform.

Another reason could be due to a change in professional relationship. If a past working relationship has soured, or if an individual's behavior on the platform is unprofessional or spammy, removing them from your connections might be a necessary step to protect your own professional reputation and online experience. In some cases, individuals might connect with you purely for self-promotion or to collect connections without genuine professional intent, and deleting such connections can help maintain the integrity of your network.

- **Network relevance:** Removing connections that are no longer aligned with your career goals or industry.
- **Professional conduct:** Deleting individuals whose behavior is unprofessional or detrimental to your experience.
- **Network hygiene:** Streamlining your connections for better visibility of valuable content and opportunities.
- **Personal preference:** Simply wishing to curate a more exclusive and focused professional circle.

How to Delete a Connection on LinkedIn (Desktop Version)

Deleting a connection on the LinkedIn desktop version is a straightforward process designed to give users control over their network. You will need to navigate to the profile of the person you wish to remove. Once you are on their profile page, locate the "More..." button, which is typically found near the "Message" and "Connect" buttons. Clicking on this button will reveal a dropdown menu with several options.

In the dropdown menu, you will find an option labeled "Remove connection" or "Delete connection." Select this option. LinkedIn will then present you with a confirmation prompt to ensure you genuinely wish to remove this person from your network. It's important to read this prompt carefully, as once confirmed, the connection is permanently severed. After confirming, the individual will be removed from your list of connections, and they will no longer see you in their connections list either.

How to Delete a Connection on LinkedIn (Mobile App)

For users who primarily manage their LinkedIn presence via the mobile app, the process of deleting a connection is also quite intuitive, though the interface differs slightly from the desktop version. First, open the LinkedIn app on your smartphone or tablet. Navigate to the profile of the connection you wish to delete. You can do this by searching for their name or by accessing your existing connections list and selecting their profile from there.

Once you are on their profile page within the mobile app, look for the "More" icon. This icon often appears as three dots or a similar symbol, usually located near the top of their profile, often adjacent to their name and headline. Tap on this "More" icon. A menu will appear, and you should select the option that says "Remove connection." As with the desktop version, you will be presented with a confirmation screen. Review the message and confirm your decision to remove the connection to finalize the action.

Understanding the Difference: Deleting a Connection vs. Removing a Follower

It's crucial to understand the distinction between deleting a connection and removing a follower on LinkedIn, as these actions have different implications for your network and how others interact with your content. When you "delete" a connection, you are essentially severing a reciprocal relationship. Both parties are removed from each other's connection lists, and they will no longer see each other's updates in their feeds unless they follow each other independently or are connected through mutual connections.

On the other hand, "removing a follower" means that an individual will no longer receive updates from your activity in their feed. However, if they are also a connection, they will remain a connection. If they are not a connection, they will simply stop following you. If you remove someone as a follower who is not a connection, they will no longer see your public posts in their feed. If you remove someone as a follower who is a connection, they will stop seeing your updates, but they remain in your network.

How to Remove a Follower on LinkedIn

Removing someone who follows you on LinkedIn is a straightforward process that can be done from either the desktop or mobile version of the platform. To begin, you'll need to access your list of followers. On the desktop, this can typically be found on your profile page or within your network management settings. On the mobile app, navigate to your profile and look for the "Followers" section.

Once you have located the follower you wish to remove, you will see an option next to their name. This option might be a "More" icon (three dots) or directly a "Remove follower" button. Clicking on this will present a confirmation prompt. Confirming this action will remove them from your list of

followers. They will no longer receive updates from your activity unless they are also a connection or you choose to follow them back. This action does not affect their status as a connection if one exists.

What Happens When You Delete a Connection?

When you decide to delete a connection on LinkedIn, several things occur that alter the nature of your interaction with that individual on the platform. Firstly, the person is removed from your list of connections, and you are also removed from their list. This means neither of you will see the other in your respective "Connections" lists. Consequently, you will no longer receive their updates in your LinkedIn feed, and they will no longer receive yours through your connection status.

Furthermore, the level of interaction between you changes. You will no longer be able to send them direct messages unless you reconnect with them. Any endorsements or recommendations they have given you, or vice-versa, may be removed or become less prominent. It's important to note that while the connection is deleted, their profile may still appear in search results, and they may still be able to follow you if you have public posts and they choose to do so. However, the direct, reciprocal link is gone.

Can You Un-delete a LinkedIn Connection?

In most cases, once you have deleted a connection on LinkedIn, that action is permanent, and there is no direct "undo" button to restore the connection. If you wish to re-establish a connection with someone you have previously deleted, you will need to send them a new connection request. They will then have the option to accept or decline this new request, just as if you had never been connected before.

It is important to approach this with consideration. If you are sending a new connection request to someone you previously removed, it might be beneficial to include a personalized message explaining why you are reaching out again. This can help to mitigate any awkwardness and reinforce your professional interest. LinkedIn does not retain a history of deleted connections, so you will be starting fresh in terms of your network relationship.

Managing Your Network Visibility Settings

LinkedIn offers robust privacy settings that allow you to control how your network is perceived by others. While you cannot prevent people from seeing who they are connected to directly, you can manage broader visibility. For instance, you can choose whether your network is visible to everyone, to your connections only, or to no one. This setting can be found within your account's privacy and settings section.

Additionally, you can control who sees your connections' information. For example, you can opt out of having your connections list visible to other LinkedIn members. This feature allows for a greater

degree of privacy regarding the individuals within your professional circle. By carefully reviewing and adjusting these visibility settings, you can further curate how your professional network is presented and accessed by others on the platform.

Best Practices for Managing Your LinkedIn Network

Effectively managing your LinkedIn network is an ongoing process that contributes significantly to your professional growth. Regularly review your connections to ensure they align with your current career objectives and industry. Don't be afraid to prune connections that no longer serve a valuable purpose or that clutter your feed with irrelevant content.

When sending connection requests, always personalize your messages to explain the context of your outreach. This significantly increases the likelihood of your request being accepted and sets a professional tone from the outset. Similarly, when you need to remove a connection, do so respectfully and without public commentary. Maintaining a clean, relevant, and engaged network on LinkedIn is a strategic asset that requires mindful attention.

FAQ

Q: How can I see a list of all my LinkedIn connections on the desktop?

A: To see a list of all your LinkedIn connections on the desktop, navigate to your profile page. Then, click on the "My Network" tab, and from the dropdown menu, select "Connections." This will display a comprehensive list of all individuals you are connected with.

Q: Can I delete multiple connections at once on LinkedIn?

A: Unfortunately, LinkedIn does not offer a feature to delete multiple connections simultaneously. You must remove each connection individually from their profile page.

Q: Does LinkedIn notify the person when I delete them as a connection?

A: No, LinkedIn does not explicitly notify a person when you delete them as a connection. They will only discover this if they happen to view your profile and see that you are no longer listed as a connection, or if they notice your updates have stopped appearing in their feed due to the severed connection.

Q: What is the difference between unfriending and deleting a

connection on LinkedIn?

A: On LinkedIn, the terms "unfriend" and "delete connection" are used interchangeably. Both actions result in the removal of the reciprocal professional relationship between you and the individual on the platform.

Q: If I delete someone as a connection, can they still see my public posts?

A: Yes, if you delete someone as a connection, they may still be able to see your public posts if your privacy settings allow for this. Their ability to see your updates in their feed is removed, but your public content remains accessible.

Q: How can I remove a connection without visiting their profile?

A: While you can access your connections list from "My Network," to delete a specific connection, you will typically need to go to their individual profile page and find the "More" button to initiate the deletion process.

Q: Will deleting a connection impact my LinkedIn profile's visibility?

A: Deleting a connection primarily affects your direct interaction with that individual and their visibility of your updates. It does not inherently impact your overall profile's visibility in LinkedIn searches or to the wider platform unless you make broader changes to your privacy settings.

Q: Is there a limit to how many connections I can delete?

A: LinkedIn does not impose a strict limit on the number of connections you can delete. However, it is advisable to manage your network thoughtfully rather than deleting connections excessively without reason.

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