Online Privacy

Also see Online Protection and Social Networking & Doxxing.

Public Records Websites

Public record websites periodically scrape social media networks, archived websites, public records databases, and other sources of potentially useful data points and present their findings online. Information captured by these websites may include names, birth dates, current and/or previous addresses, names of relatives and associates, social media profile photographs, archived social media information, work locations, job titles, salaries, real estate records, telephone numbers, and more. Though these websites can serve legitimate purposes such as aiding law enforcement or employers in background investigations, they are also attractive to threat actors seeking to gather information about targets to use in doxing campaigns or other nefarious activity.

Data brokers regularly sell private information. Even if you have an online privacy service companies remove your information as a one-time service, next week/month your information will pop back up during the data broker's buying and selling. To keep your information reasonably off the internet, continual monitoring and removal is the only solution.

- Recent 'MFA Bombing' Attacks Targeting Apple Users
- FTC Article What To Know About People Search Sites That Sell Your Information
- FTC Article How Websites and Apps Collect and Use Your Information
- FTC Consumer Alerts

You can definitely remove the information by yourself, but understand you'll have to fill out online forms for each data broker. You're looking at approximately 50 data brokers for a reasonable result.

Recommended Online Privacy Service Companies

- OfficerPrivacy
 - $\circ~\mbox{Referral Link}$ You'll get 2 months of free monitoring.
 - Police1 Article
- EastyOptOuts

Other Information

- Big Ass Data Broker Opt-Out List
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CcQkAYIkxuc
- https://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2024/08/its-not-worth-paying-to-be-removed-from-people-finder-sites-studysays
- https://privacytests.org

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