

A beginner's guide to: X

What is X?

Formerly known as Twitter, X is a social media platform which is free to use on computers, and free to download on smartphones. All you need to be able to use X is an account which can be made online by completing a simple registration form.

To create an account, you must be aged 13+ and have an email address or phone number.

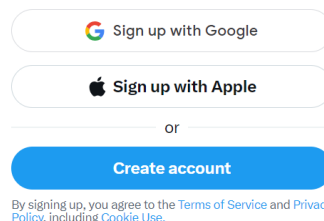
On X, people can share posts which contain up to 280 characters (numbers, letters, emojis and/or symbols), as well as photographs and videos with their followers. Similar to most other social media platforms, followers are other accounts which can interact with your account – usually these are friends, family, colleagues, etc. However, when you have created your account, you have the option to have a private or public account. If you choose a private account only your followers can see your content and you must approve new followers, but if you choose public, anyone can look at your content. You can choose this within your profile settings.

Setting up an X account

Happening now



Join today.



Sign up with Google

Sign up with Apple

or

Create account

By signing up, you agree to the [Terms of Service and Privacy Policy](#), including [Cookie Use](#).

To create an account on X, simply click the 'create account' button on the home page. Once you've clicked this, there are five steps to complete.

- The first asks for your name, phone number (or you can use your email address) and date of birth – don't worry, this won't be shown on your profile, it's just to make sure you are 13+!
- You'll then be asked if you're happy for X to suggest people to follow based on your personal details (phone number/email address), you don't have to tick these boxes, so you can leave them blank!
- The third step asks you to verify your phone number or email address. X will send you a code which needs to be put in the verification box which pops up.
- To keep your account secure, you'll now be asked to create a password which is 8 or more characters – make sure it's memorable as you'll need this to log in!
- To make your profile more personalised, it's time to upload a profile photograph. We would like you to use the BB logo, which can be downloaded from the brand guidelines [here](#).
- Once you've uploaded your profile photograph, it's time to create a bio. This is a short paragraph about what people who visit your X profile can expect to see – you

only get 160 characters so use them wisely. Here is an example bio which can be used as a template – just fill in the gaps!

- *[INSERT BB GROUP NAME] provides children and young people opportunities to learn, grow and discover at [INSERT LOCATION] on [INSERT DAY OF WEEK]. [INSERT TIMES].*
- The final step in setting up your account is choosing a username. Your username will need to be unique and is what people will use to find your account. No two accounts can have the same username. Please focus your username on your BB group's name using either of the following formats:
 - Boys' Brigade, Company number and location e.g., BB1stHowden / BB11thNorthants
 - Company number, location, BB e.g., 1stHowdenBB / 11thNorthantsBB

When you're setting up the X account, there will be a few final set-up steps, including turning on notifications, choosing up to three interests to help X show you relevant content – remember, you're setting this up on behalf of BB so we would suggest you choose outdoors, family & relationships and sports. You'll also be asked to start following at least one account from a list which X puts forwards – we would suggest following a news outlet relevant to your area.

That's your account all set up - your BB group is now on X!

The last thing to do before starting to follow other accounts is to pick a header for your profile! A header picture is shown at the top of your profile, it's a little bit like a secondary profile photograph. As such, this photograph should highlight what the BB does so we have created a handy header which can be downloaded [here](#).

To do upload a header, click on the 'profile' button and then when you're on your profile click on 'set up'.

For inspiration, here is what the national BB X profile looks like:



The Boys' Brigade

@theboysbrigade

The official Twitter page of The Boys' Brigade UK and Republic of Ireland

[boys-brigade.org.uk](https://www.boys-brigade.org.uk) Joined November 2010

713 Following 4,646 Followers

Not followed by anyone you're following

Finding people to follow and growing your following

One of the main reasons we're wanting BB groups get more involved with social media locally is that it really helps to showcase the exciting programme of activities available through the organisation. Plus, having a local presence will help you grow your network and encourage local people to get involved,



Refresh.

You can find other BB groups by firstly following the national BB X page - [@theboysbrigade](#) – and then looking through the people who follow the account/who the national account follows. To start following someone new, simply click 'follow'.



Once you have started following other accounts, their posts will start showing up on your homepage. By following other groups, it'll give you ideas for content you could post on your own BB profile. The more you follow, the more ideas you'll get that you can use yourself!

When you're ready to start sharing information about your BB group on your X page, check out 'An intermediate guide to: X'.

Example X content from BB groups:

35th Liverpool - [@35thLiverpoolBB](#)

35th Liverpool Boys' Brigade
@35thLiverpoolBB Follows you

We have faith in young people and we want all children and young people to experience life to the full 🇯🇵 | All Saints' Church, Childwall since 1945

📍 Liverpool, UK 🌐 boys-brigade.org.uk 📅 Joined August 2012

532 Following 669 Followers

35th Liverpool Boys' Brigade @35thLiverpoolBB · 18h

🚩 WE'RE RECRUITING YEAR 1s 🚩

We're looking for fun-loving boys who are about to start Year 1 to join our Boys' Brigade group.

To find out more, come along to our open evening at the Church Hall on Tuesday 19 September, anytime between 5:45pm - 6:30pm.

#BoysBrigade 🇯🇵

1 ❤️ 66 📊 📌

35th Liverpool Boys' Brigade @35thLiverpoolBB · Aug 14

Summer camp: extraordinary young people in an extraordinary setting doing extraordinary things #BBCamp23 🏕️🌲

#BoysBrigade #LifeToTheFull 🇯🇵 @theboysbrigade

2 ❤️ 89 📊 📌

Edinburgh, Leith & District - [@eldbb](#)

The Boys' Brigade Edinburgh, Leith & District
 @eldbb Follows you

The Boys' Brigade - Edinburgh, Leith & District Battalion supports groups throughout the City of Edinburgh, Midlothian and East Lothian Council areas.

Edinburgh, Scotland thebb-edinburgh.org.uk
 Joined September 2011

547 Following 588 Followers

The Boys' Brigade Edinburgh, Leith & District @eldbb · Jun 24

Great to see the BB at the Loanhead Gala Day.

1 7 336

The Boys' Brigade Edinburgh, Leith & District @eldbb · May 23

We welcomed the Lord High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland to Battalion HQ. Our thanks to all our members in attendance who helped showcase the best of the BB. Our thanks also to [@jonathanealesbb](#) and [@OwenThompson](#) who were able to join us.

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