Disney+ is the latest big player in the TV streaming market. The global brand has released its own subscription-based streaming service to rival that of competitors such as Netflix, Amazon Prime and Apple TV. As the name might suggest, it's designed to be family friendly, with content restricted to PG and PG-13 (UK equivalent 12a). It can be streamed on pretty much any device – mobile phones, tablets, PC's, TVs and games consoles – and features a huge library of classic Disney titles. Below, we've highlighted a few tips for parents to consider to ensure that their children get the most enjoyable experience out of the service.

# 5 TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

# DISNEY+





## 1 Create a strong username & password

On its release in the US, Canada and Netherlands in November 2019, Disney+ was dogged by allegations of being hacked. Many users complained that their account details had been stolen and blamed Disney+ security. To date, Disney+ has confirmed there was no data breach from their end. As Disney+ doesn't use 2-factor authentication, anybody who potentially hacks your username and password could also access your credit card details. Therefore, it's important to create a unique username and a strong password that isn't used for other sites. Always use a mixture of letters (upper and lowercase), numbers and symbols and try to ensure the minimum length is 8 characters.

## 2 Monitor your child's usage

Whilst the ability to stream on almost any device capable of connecting to the internet might seem great at first, parents may also want to exercise a little bit of caution. Parental controls on Disney+ are quite limited and there are no settings to help with screen time or usage, so it can be easy for children to binge watch, particularly given the amount of content available. Apple, Google and Amazon devices all provide options to limit children's screen time so parents can manage how long their child uses the app.

## 3 Enable 'Kid's Profile' mode

Although Disney+ is billed as family friendly, there is still an option to enable a 'kid's profile' which removes all PG and PG-13 rated content. This adds an extra level of safety if you're still concerned that your child may watch something that could be deemed too 'intense' for their age. Setting up a kid's profile also switches off autoplay which means the next video in any series won't automatically play once one episode has finished. It should be noted though that children can easily switch between accounts themselves given there is no security required to get into profiles.

## 4 Double check for films with 'outdated cultural depictions'

The Disney+ service includes programs and movies that go back to the 1920s and which have been left in their original format, with their original content. Some of this programming contains cultural insensitivities and depictions that were included in the original show, but Disney would never include them now. For example, cultural stereotyping, the representation of minority groups or character portrayals which may be deemed racist. For this reason, viewers are made aware through a warning message stating "This program is presented as originally created. It may contain outdated cultural depictions." Whilst Disney do their best to highlight any such content, it's always worth discussing these issues with your child if they raise any queries.

## 5 Sit back and enjoy!

Above all else, Disney+ is designed to be family friendly and there is very little, if any, adult-themed content available for children to stumble across. The library of films and programmes can range from all-time classics to the latest Hollywood blockbuster and it can be a great avenue for parents and children to sit down together, ready the popcorn and enjoy some great family friendly entertainment.

## Meet our expert



Pete Badh is a writer with over 10+ years in research and analysis. Working within a specialist area for West Yorkshire Police, Pete has contributed work which has been pivotal in successfully winning high profile cases in court as well as writing as a subject matter expert for industry handbooks.

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