



Melon is video chatting application that allows people to connect with the tap of a button. The user can chat with as many different users as they like. The application records a history of the chats so the user can then revisit the chat with their new 'friend'.

There are filters within the app that allow the user to talk to people in 'specific' regions, but cost either a weekly or monthly fee. The app pairs the users based on age and gender and once an account is created they get automatically paired with another user via video. There is an option to have location services on for the application, Melon recommends having it on so that the user can 'make friends all over the world.'

Melon is a messaging app that allows users to chat with strangers, share images, and more. Not only does this app make it easy for children and teens to engage in age - inappropriate conversations, it makes it easy for predators to connect with potential victims. For these reasons, no child under 18 should use this app.

Challenges

There is no real filtering that is possible with the video chatting because the users control their own video feed. There has been many reports of misuse and inappropriate behaviour. This behaviour can be reported, but only after it has occurred.

All anonymous video - sharing apps bring risk of the user being exposed to inappropriate content. Many people have compared this application as a cross between Omegle and Tinder.

How do I block on Melon?

Unfortunately there is no way to block on this app.

How do I delete my Melon account?

- Firstly login to the site and click on the team chat from the left sidebar.
- Go to the text chat panel and specify that you would like your account deleted.
- If you don't get any response send an email

Like any social media Melon can be a positive social activity that keeps kids connected to their friends. Just be mindful of screen time and be aware of who they are connecting with. We always encourage open conversations around privacy and personal safety.

App Fact Sheets available from the Carly Ryan Foundation. Please email: info@carlyryanfoundation.com