

Doxxing Defense- How to Protect Your Identity Online:

Doxxing is an online term used for when hackers publically expose the personal details of their targets. These details can include an individual’s name, phone number, e-mail, home address, social media information and even financial records. There are multiple websites known as “brokers” that provide this information with easy access, some for money and some for free. Hackers can and have used this information to sometimes threaten people.

How can you protect yourself?

Although there are countless data brokers, the good news is that some of the more popular brokers give you a way to “opt-out” by removing the information that they have on you. The following 11 popular broker sites have the opt-out option.

Data Brokers	Opt-Out Form	Verification	Turnaround	Results
Spokeo	http://www.spokeo.com/opt_out/new	E-mail Address	30 minutes	Effective
Pipl	https://pipl.com/directory/remove/	E-mail Address	Immediate	Effective
ZoomInfo	http://www.zoominfo.com/lookupEmail	E-mail Address	“Within a few days”	Effective
Whitepages	https://support.whitepages.com/hc/en-us/articles/203263794-How-do-I-remove-my-people-search-profile-	E-mail Address & Phone Number	Immediate	Effective*
PeopleSmart	https://www.peoplesmart.com/optout-go	E-mail Address	Up to 72 hours	Effective
CheckPeople	http://www.checkpeople.com/optout	None	Up to 10 days	Ineffective
BeenVerified	http://www.beenverified.com/optout	E-mail Address	24 hours (generally)	Effective
Intelius	https://www.intelius.com/optout.php	Government Issued ID	7-14 days	Effective
PublicRecords360	http://www.publicrecords360.com/optout.html	Government Issued ID	7-14 days	Effective
Zabasearch**	http://www.zabasearch.com/block_records/	Government Issued ID	4-6 weeks	N/A
US Search	http://www.ussearch.com/privacylock	Government Issued ID	Within 7-14 days of receipt of proof of ID	N/A
PeopleFinders	http://www.peoplefinders.com/manage/	None	1 hour	Effective
PeekYou	http://www.peakyou.com/about/contact/optout/index.php	E-mail Address	48 hours; sometimes up to 10 business days	Effective

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*Whitepages generally honors opt-out, but your record can still show up in sponsored partners such as InstantCheckmate.com, BeenVerified.com and PeopleSmart.com

**ZabaSearch will only take requests by fax.

References

<http://www.computerworld.com/article/2849263/doxing-defense-remove-your-personal-info-from-data-brokers.html>