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# How Recruiters Use Social Networks to Screen Candidates [INFOGRAPHIC]





Over the past few years, we've seen social media used in the job market in a number of ways — startups, small businesses and large corporations alike are diving into the socialverse to find top talent, and job seekers are likewise getting creative with social media.

Social media monitoring service Reppler recently surveyed more than 300 hiring professionals to determine when and how job recruiters are screening job candidates on different social networks.

The study found that more than 90% of recruiters and hiring managers have visited a potential candidate's profile on a social network as part of the screening process. And a whopping 69% of recruiters have rejected a candidate based on content found on his or her social networking profiles — an almost equal proportion of recruiters (68%), though, have hired a candidate based on his or her presence on those networks.



Check out the infographic below for more results from the survey, including what details on a candidate's social profile make recruiters tick.

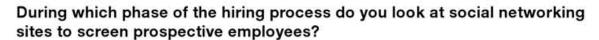
# Job Screening with Social Networks

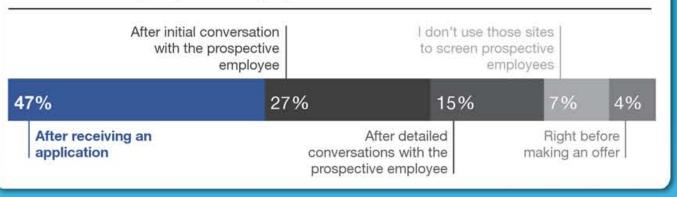
· How Are Employers Screening Job Applicants?



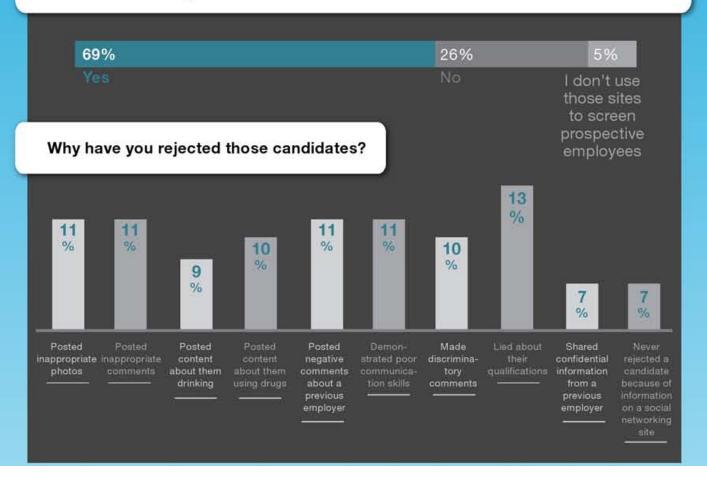
During the hiring process, which social networks do you use to screen candidates?

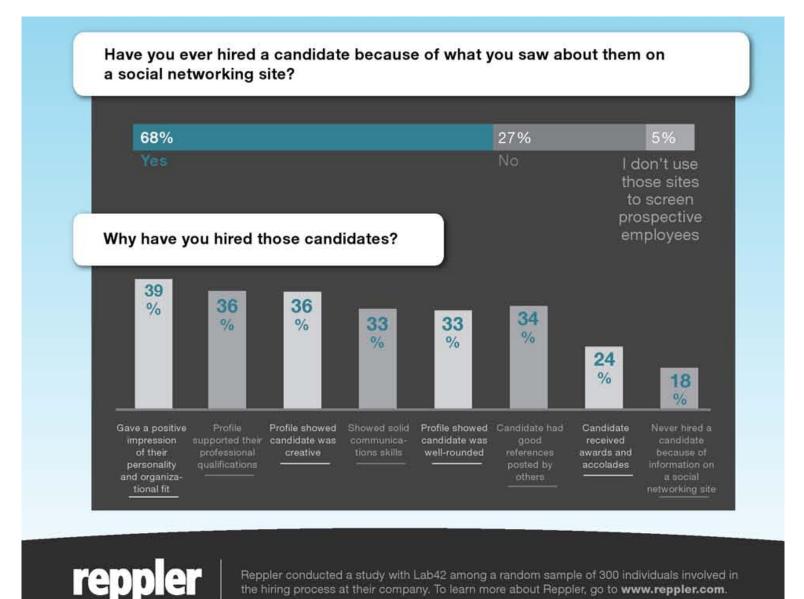






Have you ever rejected a candidate because of what you saw about them on a social networking site?





# .....

Social Media Job Listings

Every week we post a list of social media and web job opportunities. While we publish a huge range of job listings, we've selected some of the top social media job opportunities from the past two weeks to get you started. Happy hunting!

- ▶ Web Developer at Creative Marketing Partners in Miami
- ▶ Community Manager at Digital Brand Architects in New York
- ▶ **Digital Marketing Manager** at Seattle Mariners in Seattle

Infographic courtesy of Reppler







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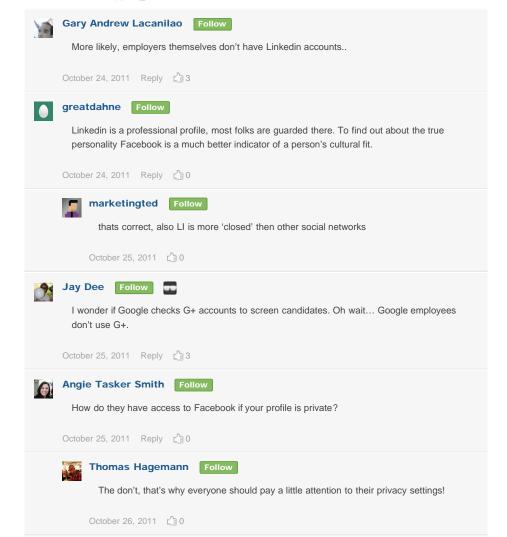


Becky Bradshaw Follow

Surprised LinkedIn is so low.

October 23, 2011 Reply 🔓 3

mruizalba







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At least we can see that employers are more concerned about our real personality (FBook 76%)

October 26, 2011 Reply 0



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Natasha Wright Follow

is Mashable hiring writers?:) October 23, 2011 Reply 1



Network 5 Gadgets From CES That Are **Ideal for Journalists 2** 

D



g\_christen Follow

This is exactly why something like http://evaluat3.me works. It seems to me recruiters are looking at social networks increasingly earlier in their search. Social network profiles tend to substantiate claims, not just about specific skills like 'I'm a good designer 'but also about softer traits like communication or teamwork. Your peers, especially as group, can probably objectively judge your claims fairly well. From a recruitment perspective it totally makes sense.

October 23, 2011 Reply 🔓 3



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Andrew Askew Follow M





I'm amazed by the stats... yet not surprised...

October 23, 2011 Reply 1



Frito Pendejo Follow





What's more amazing is that the stats were provided by a roofing company who only hires illegal immigrants!

October 24, 2011 Reply 0



Lea Cullen Boyer Follow

Very smart business. Looking to see if a candidate would be a good fit into the work community with very little effort!

October 23, 2011 Reply 10



Paco Burrola Follow



i guess "i didn't hire him because he is openly gay or in a relationship with another man" socores higher in the rejection options, but you did not listed it just for being polite or whatever

October 23, 2011 Reply 4



SegoleneRoche Follow

It's a shame recruiters can't seem to make the difference between a professional profile and a personal one. Rejecting someone because they've got "inappropriate" photos on their fb account shouldn't be a proper reason. It raises more issues of personal vs. professional life than ever.

October 23, 2011 Reply 6



Alex Fitzpatrick Follow M





In my opinion, the image you present openly on social networks is part of your image as a person overall. If you've got less-than-desirable pictures on Facebook tagged and set so anyone may view them, you're broadcasting to the world that's how you'd like to be seen.

Setting up your Facebook photos so some of them can only be seen by close friends is fairly

easy and similar to "style switching" in verbal communication - the way you change your style of speech depending on whom you're speaking with.

October 24, 2011 Reply 2



#### Ryan Flores Follow

I truly agree with your comments. A couple of weeks ago, I posted links on my FB wall regarding the same subject matter. I especially agree with what was posted on Forbes earlier this month (http://www.forbes.com/sites/susannahbreslin/2011/10/04/facebook-profileswhat-employers-think/). Here are two other links that I shared on my wall regarding this: http://www.businessweek.com/debateroom/archives/2010/12/employers\_get\_ou and http://gizmodo.com/5818774/this-is-a-social-media-background-check. The Gizmodo link demonstrates that if your FB profile is Private, background will reveal VERY LIMITED information.

At the same time, I can understand why CERTAIN companies would reject people. The key here is perception! Professional companies do not want their employees to misrepresent them. Thus, the important thing is if you are out looking for a job, then I would say that it's best to set your profile to Private. But that's not full proof. For example, future employers MAY ask to be your friend during an interview. This is something that happened to a family member of mine during their interview.

October 26, 2011 Reply 0



#### Sonia3044 Follow

It's a shame some employers hire someone and then look at their Facebook profile photo only to say they would not have hired them based on their photo. This is based on the person not fitting into the employer's environment.

October 23, 2011 Reply 2



#### uh2l

Makes you wonder how they're able to access the profiles on Facebook if most people don't make the information viewable to non-friends.

October 23, 2011 Reply 1



#### Alan Alexeyev



exactly. I have the same question

October 23, 2011 Reply 0



#### uh2l

Follow

Perhaps (at least for tech jobs), they shouldn't hire people that don't know how to change the privacy settings to not show all their personal pictures and updates to the general public! :-)

October 23, 2011 1 1



#### Gergely Varju Follow

I am not a HR person, not a recruiter, but I know the answer. Use your brains: Facebook, etc. won't know if you are a recruiter so it won't be able to bypass those permissions. He will just see how he doesn't know certain things about you, he will just see how it is a risk to your next

And he will see a cadidate equally good in other areas who is also more progressive about privacy (wants to share some data about himself because it is in his best interest) who comes without such risks attached. Yes, he will hire that candidate instead.

You share too few info, you control your piracy too much, etc. and you lose your chances easily.



Facebook **Announces Tight** Integration of 60 Apps to Timeline, More on the Way 🖫 27



**TED Takes on SOPA:** Why it Would Create a 'Consumption-Only Internet' [VIDEO]

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**MASHABLE JOBS** 

**Social Media Marketing Coordinator** Los Angeles, CA - Epitaph/ Anti Records

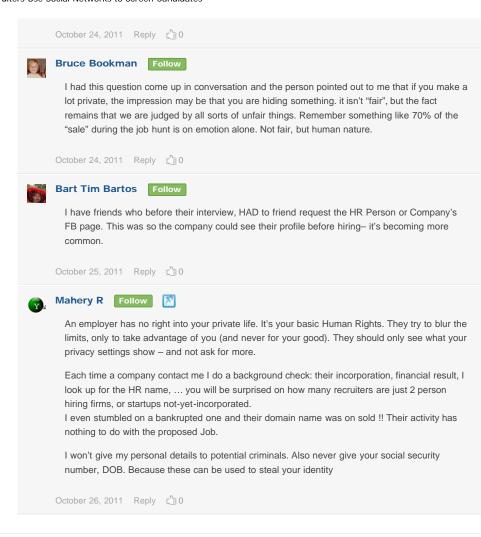
Social Media Senior Associate Washington, DC - Reingold

Social Media Account Manager Denver, CO - Swift Communications

Associate Director, Social Media Seattle, WA - Razorfish

**Associate Director, Social Media** San Francisco, CA - Razorfish

Jobs by SimplyHired





## Squealadeal1 Follow





69% of recruiters have rejected a candidate-Glad i'm self employed.

October 23, 2011 Reply 1



## Nathanael Culver





And if the recruiter can't find me because my Facebook account is a pseudonym, would I be rejected as a technological Luddite?

October 23, 2011 Reply 1



#### Danielle Powers Follow

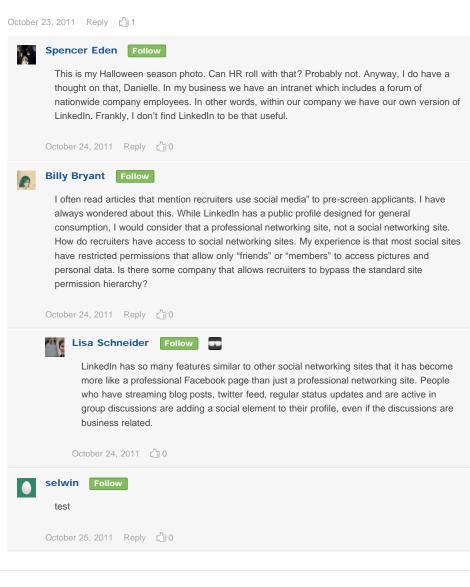
no, most recruiters assume that you are careful to distinguish between personal and professional and BRIGHT enough to update your security settings so that we don't see things you don't want us to see. I personally don't look for candidate profiles on FB because of the personal aspect, but I do look for them on LinkedIn to see if their background matches their resume, who is recommending them, etc... The line is so blurred what makes one ok for a recruiter to look at and not the other?

October 23, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



## Danielle Powers

Equal % of candidates have been hired that have not been hired based on what they see on social media sites. Is it strange that I think this is perfect? Seriously, to not only be hired based on what you experience in an interview but then to have the employer feel that you are a good cultural fit, sounds like a potentially long lasting relationship, that they are investing on the candidate for the long term. One of the things that still surprises me is when I am recruiting for qualified sales people and they only have like 35 connections and are not in any groups in their industry or field. THOUGHTS?





KenMorico Follow

I wish recruiters would look at my social media accounts before they spam me.

October 23, 2011 Reply 👸 0



Alan Alexeyev

Follow



but how employers get access to Social networks if often people restrict it to friends only?

October 23, 2011 Reply 1



there is an option at the top-right to "View as..." You can select Public to see how your profile appears to a non-friend who searches for you.

October 24, 2011 0



#### JordanJWoods

Follow



Interesting that that the reason for the highest % not getting hired was because their social media presence somehow demonstrates that they lied about their qualifications—that seems awfully questionable to me; how exactly can you determine that based on social media profiles? Titles, responsibilities, etc. differ so much from organization to organization.

Considering that Facebook was used by 76% of recruiters using social networking sites for these purposes, I'm wondering what exactly tipped so many off that their potential hires were under-qualified. Maybe if a status update was like, "just quit my job at the gas station and then got this recruiter to think that I am VP of Marketing material...LOLZ".

October 23, 2011 Reply 2



#### Rebekah407

Haha that is funny.

November 19, 2011 Reply 0



#### Rimaz Ahamed Abdul Azeez Follow

FB is an investment!!!

October 24, 2011 Reply 0



## kevin lewis

用社会化媒体

适合 的工作 看看国外的

据吧#社会化媒体 ##千 微 #

October 24, 2011 Reply 60



## kevin lewis

用社会化媒体

适合 的工作 国外的

据 #社会化媒体

October 24, 2011 Reply 🖒 0



#### Guy Borgford Follow



Some people just don't censor their inside voice on social media channels. To me that just indicates poor judgment, and that in itself is a reason not to have someone join your team.

October 24, 2011 Reply 1



#### cssrinivasarao Follow

I will never reject a candidate because of his FB status..never

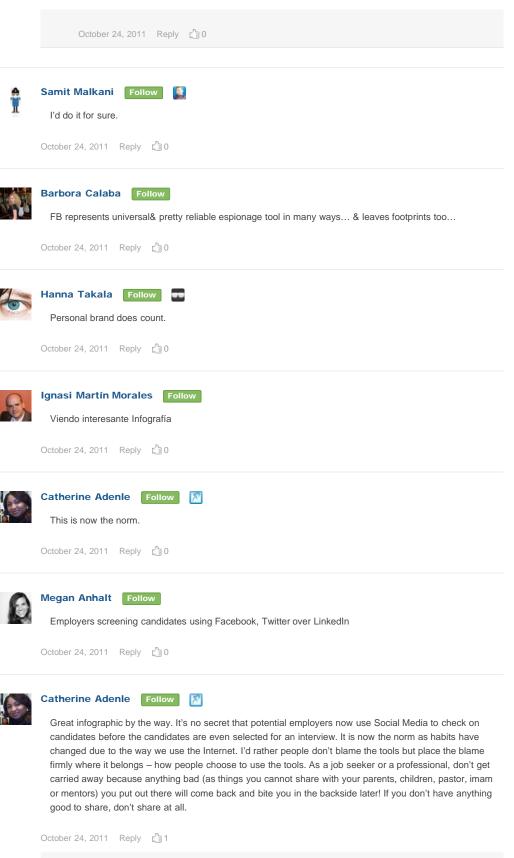
October 24, 2011 Reply 1



#### Squealadeal1 Follow



you must work for FB? There's alot of fear looming now out there about this subject. This could have an adverse effect on real name social networks, and start a new trend in another direction. Which is making FB nervous i'm sure.



Rebekah407 Follow

Lagree! Lam sitting on the fence on this one. I see the benefits for bus

I agree! I am sitting on the fence on this one. I see the benefits for business: save costs on hiring/firing unfitting employees, aiding in selecting positions. Institutions have obviously hired based on good info they discovered on FB profiles. It does infringe on rights somewhat though. I say, if you don't want them to see your bad side, make your profile private! Or just don't post what is innappropriate and you will have nothing to worry about. If you have a lot to hide, maybe you should wonder if you are happy with your lifestyle and the choices you are making. If you have to hide who you are to different people, doesn't that make you...wait...there's a term...two-

faced? haaha. It does depend on the type of business you are involved in. For example, If you are a proffessional hit man, you probably don't want your boss(es) to see famiy pics of your wife and kids, just in case you get "fired", ya know? lol

November 20, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



#### Teo Hernandez Follow

"Just be who you are" #in

October 24, 2011 Reply 10



#### Arsalan Rabbani Follow





better watch what you put up as a status :)

October 24, 2011 Reply 0



## VeehCirra Follow

In the world we live in today, it's important to be transparent!

October 24, 2011 Reply 0



#### Caroline Pancholi



Never thought FB could be used in that way

October 24, 2011 Reply 60



## Viviane Alcaide



I don't mention my professional life on FB, I like to keep my professional life and my personal life apart. That's why I have Linked in profile. However I've used FB to check on a doctor that was treating a member of the family, she had way too many wild parties pictures on her profile and I admit we looked for another doctor after that.

October 24, 2011 Reply 0



#### LastCycle Follow



No ones talks about how these statistic are completely false and biased?

Nope of course it's 2011, as Gobbels the nazi propagandist would have said "repeat a lie a hundred of times and it's a lie, but repeat it on social media and it becomes the truth"...

Most people, especially applicant have fairly neutral profile pictures, and because the kind of people who apply for the kind of job where employers check Facebook, are usually young graduates or worker who know hoz to use social networks there are few chances that they live their photos album open like book.

Then if an employer judges and take decisions according to private pictures, the company is probably crap, but more important because usually if a company judges you based on your opinion, political or religious view because that's all they can access, this is illegal employment discrimination. And finally people who have the -illegal- means to crack onto your Facebook to see your wall messages, are probably crap companies.

Anyway, these numbers here, are completely FALSE and biased. Seriously nowadays you can chart and have whatever bullshit results you want.

October 24, 2011 Reply 1

Claire Vannette







This is a fantastically flawed way to hire people. Probably accounts for why the retail industry has such poor levels of service these days. Recruiters cutting costs to get people at the right price.

October 24, 2011 Reply 1



# Larry McAllister II Follow





Valuable info for those hunting

October 24, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



#### Paul Fullilove Follow



Excellent article. I was not aware that recruiters social networks to this extent. I'm wondering why LinkedIn is so low.

October 24, 2011 Reply 60



#### Krisztian Boros Follow





nosurpise-always be prof online!

October 24, 2011 Reply 10



## Trupti Gandhi Follow 🕶





Just the thing we were discussing the day before...

October 24, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



#### Graeme Byrd





Worth a glance.

October 24, 2011 Reply 0



### Borstlap Follow

How candidates (I want a nice job) should screen the recruiters' clients (I need a nice collegue): http://www.wovox.com discover workplaces!

October 24, 2011 Reply 60



## jonexleylondon Follow

LinkedIn is often referenced for professional hires, but Facebook access is usually blocked for the average recruiter (at least within the big recruitment firms). Even if they could access, unless they're friends with the candidate what can they find out?

October 24, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



#### Cynthia Moutamara Follow

pour mes amis en affaires. prendre le temps de lire sera tres educatif! bonne lecture!

October 24, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



## Alex Fitzpatrick Follow M





Merci. Je suis content que vous l'avez apprécié.

October 24, 2011 Reply 10



## Debbie Cecatiello Follow

Surprised Facebook is so high. Not really a "job-related" site...but by looking at the chart, they use Facebook to determine "personality" and behavior outside of work...very interesting. Although it doesn't say, I wonder how much weight "political opinions" on Facebook count?

October 24, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



#### Half Hour Mike

Poltical opinions count a lot. If you support #OWS as an example, what does the standard corporate suit think of that?

October 26, 2011 Reply 60



## Donald Stephenson Follow



you are being watched...

October 24, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



# Cindy Ursell Follow



Does your profile help or hurt?

October 24, 2011 Reply 🖒 0



## DeAnna Jacobsen Follow

Very interesting...

October 24, 2011 Reply 🔓 0



# Bruce Canales Follow



How could a recruiter evaluate someone's Facebook without being a friend? Assuming the candidate is not posting a public profile. I honestly thought Linkedin would have been more popular.

October 24, 2011 Reply 0



Todd Norden





Great graphic

October 24, 2011 Reply 10



Jessica Kalbarczyk Follow





Recruiters look at Facebook over LinkedIn?

October 24, 2011 Reply 1





Carlanne

I am surprised that the article, and the infographic and Reppler used the terminology the way they did. I have talked with, "followed" and personally know a lot of recruiters. They do not hire. Hiring Managers do the hiring - the recruiters research, find people, grab resumes from various sites and screen, but they usually do not do the actual hiring. This makes me want to doubt the veracity of the research. Granted the recruiters can screen out unacceptable (by their terms) candidates for jobs. It makes me realize all the social networking in the world will never replace "in person networking" when job hunting. Find someone in the field or company where you want to work and make the connections - nothing like the hiring manager telling a recruiter or HR specialist they want to interview a specific individual (especially if that individual was rejected for their social networking (or lack thereof).

October 24, 2011 Reply 0



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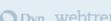
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