SOFTWARE & TECH

How Do You Delete A Contact On Linkedin

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How Do You Delete A Contact On LinkedIn: A Complete Guide to Managing Your Network

LinkedIn has become the world's largest professional networking platform, connecting millions of professionals, recruiters, and businesses. As your network grows, you may encounter situations where you need to remove a connection. Whether it's a former colleague you no longer interact with, a spam account, or someone whose content no longer aligns with your professional goals, knowing how to delete a contact on LinkedIn is a valuable skill. This comprehensive guide will walk you through the entire process, explain the implications, and offer best practices for managing your network effectively.

If you've ever asked yourself, "How do you delete a contact on LinkedIn?" you are not alone. Many users are unsure whether they can unfriend someone without causing awkwardness or losing visibility. The good news is that LinkedIn makes it easy to remove connections, and the action is private. The person you remove will not receive a notification, though they may notice your absence if they check their connections list. Below, we dive into step-by-step instructions for both desktop and mobile, as well as tips for maintaining a professional network.

Why You Might Want to Remove a LinkedIn Connection

Before we get into the technical steps, it helps to understand why you might want to delete a contact on LinkedIn. The platform encourages you to connect with people you know and trust professionally. Over time, networks can become cluttered with:

- Spam or fake accounts: These can send unwanted messages or share malicious links.
- Former colleagues or clients: After leaving a company, you may prefer to keep your network focused on current professional relationships.
- Overly promotional connections: Some users constantly pitch products or services without adding value.
- Irrelevant contacts: You may have accepted requests from people outside your industry or region who now clutter your feed.
- Privacy concerns: You might want to limit who can see your profile or activity updates.

Removing a contact is a personal decision and can help you curate a more relevant, trustworthy network. It also protects your feed from low-quality content and reduces noise. Importantly, removing a connection does not block the person—they can still view your public profile, send you a connection request again (if your settings allow), or message you if you are in the same group. If you want to prevent all future contact, you should consider blocking the user instead.

How Do You Delete A Contact On LinkedIn: Step-by-Step Guide

The process is straightforward, but the exact steps vary slightly depending on whether you are using the

LinkedIn website (desktop) or the mobile app. Below we cover both methods in detail.

1. Log in to your LinkedIn account at www.linkedin.com.
2. From your homepage, click the “My Network” icon at the top of the page (it looks like two people silhouettes).
3. On the left sidebar, click “Connections.” This will display your full list of connections.
4. Scroll through the list or use the search bar to find the person you want to remove.
5. Click the “More” button (three dots) next to their name.
6. From the dropdown menu, select “Remove Connection.”
7. A confirmation pop-up will appear. Click “Remove” to confirm.

That’s it. The person is now removed from your network. You can also remove a connection directly from their profile page. To do that, navigate to the person’s profile, click the “More” button (three dots) located near the “Message” button, and select “Remove Connection.” Confirm, and they are gone.

If you primarily use LinkedIn on your smartphone, the process is equally simple:

1. Open the LinkedIn app on your iOS or Android device and log in.
2. Tap your profile picture or the “My Network” icon at the bottom of the screen.
3. At the top of the My Network page, tap “Connections.”
4. Find the contact you want to remove. You can scroll or use the search bar.
5. Tap the “More” icon (three vertical dots) next to the connection’s name.
6. Select “Remove Connection” from the options.
7. Tap “Remove” to confirm.

Alternatively, you can go to the person’s profile, tap the three dots below their profile photo, and choose “Remove Connection.” The process is identical in concept to the desktop version.

What Happens After You Delete a LinkedIn Contact?

Understanding the consequences is crucial before you take action. Here’s what changes and what remains the same:

- You are no longer connected. The person will disappear from your connections list, and you from theirs.
- No notification is sent. Unlike some social networks, LinkedIn does not alert the person that you removed them. However, if they happen to check their connections list, they will notice you are missing.
- You cannot see each other’s full profiles. After removal, you will only see the limited public version of their profile (unless you are both members of the same LinkedIn group or have a previous inbox conversation).
- Messages remain. Any past conversations you had in LinkedIn messaging will still be accessible. You can still see those exchanges unless you also delete the conversation.
- You may still appear in their “People You May Know” suggestions. LinkedIn’s algorithm might still recommend you to each other based on shared connections or interests.
- Endorsements and recommendations disappear. Any skills endorsements or recommendations you gave each other will be removed. Keep this in mind if you have a valuable recommendation from that person.

One important nuance: if you simply want to limit what a specific connection sees without fully removing them, LinkedIn offers settings to **unfollow**the person. Unfollowing keeps the connection but stops their posts from appearing in your feed. You can also silence notifications from a connection. To unfollow, go to their profile and click the “Following” button (or tap the bell icon on mobile) and select “Unfollow.” This is a less drastic alternative to deletion.

How to Remove Multiple Connections at Once

LinkedIn does not provide a built-in bulk removal tool. You must remove each connection individually. However, if you are managing a large network and need to clean it up efficiently, consider these strategies:

- Use the desktop site (faster than mobile for multiple deletes).
- Sort your connections by “Recently Added” or “First Name” to quickly find groups you want to remove, such as people from a past company.
- Third-party browser extensions (e.g., LinkedIn Helper, Dux-Soup) offer bulk removal features, but be cautious: using automation tools can violate LinkedIn’s terms of service and may result in account restrictions. Proceed at your own risk.
- Archive or ignore if you only want to reduce feed clutter. Unfollowing is safer and easier than removing dozens of connections.

If you must remove many contacts, set aside time and do them one by one. It is tedious but keeps your account safe.

Common Questions About Removing LinkedIn Connections

No. LinkedIn does not send a notification or show a “removed” status. However, if the person later looks at their connections list or tries to message you, they will realize you are no longer connected. They can also verify by visiting your profile—if they were previously a 1st-degree connection and now see only a limited view, they will know.

Possibly. LinkedIn’s algorithm might still suggest your profile to them if you share many mutual connections or belong to the same industry. To avoid this entirely, you would need to block the person rather than simply remove them.

Removing a connection is private. The person will not receive any alert or notification. There’s no way to guarantee they won’t eventually notice, but the act itself is discreet. If you want to be completely invisible, consider unfollowing instead of removing. Unfollowing simply stops their posts from appearing in your feed while you remain connected.

Yes. You can send a new connection request after removal, provided the person’s profile settings allow it. However, they may be confused if they notice you removed them earlier. It’s best to avoid reconnecting unless you have a good reason (e.g., you removed by accident).

Removing a connection simply severs the 1st-degree link. Both parties can still see public profile information, send connection requests (if others’ settings allow), and interact in groups. **Blocking**is a much stronger action: the blocked user cannot view your profile, message you, see your activity, or find you in search results. Blocking is appropriate for harassment, spam, or safety concerns. To block, go to the user’s profile, click the three dots, and select “Block.”

Best Practices for Maintaining a Healthy LinkedIn Network

Now that you know **how do you delete a contact on LinkedIn**, here are some tips to keep your network valuable:

- Be selective when accepting requests. Only connect with people you know, have met, or who genuinely add professional value. Avoid accepting invitations from strangers without checking their profile first.
- Regularly audit your connections. Every few months, review your network and remove contacts that are no longer relevant. This keeps your feed useful and your profile secure.
- Use the “Unfollow” feature rather than removing connections if you only want to stop seeing their posts while maintaining the relationship.
- Customize your connection requests with a short note. This builds rapport and reduces future regrets.
- Consider your privacy settings. Limit who can see your connections list in your profile’s settings to prevent others from easily tracking your network changes.
- Report spam or suspicious accounts instead of just removing them. Click the three dots on their profile and select “Report/Block.” This helps LinkedIn keep the platform safe.

Remember that your LinkedIn network is a reflection of your professional brand. Curating it thoughtfully can lead to better opportunities, more meaningful interactions, and a stronger online presence.

Conclusion

Knowing how to delete a contact on LinkedIn is an essential part of managing your professional identity online. Whether you need to clear out spam, prune old connections, or adjust your network for a career change, the process is quick and private. On both desktop and mobile, you can remove a connection in just a few taps. Just remember the implications—any endorsements or recommendations will vanish, and the person may eventually notice your absence. If you want a softer approach, unfollowing might be a better choice.

By keeping your network clean and relevant, you ensure that LinkedIn remains a powerful tool for career growth and networking, not a source of distraction or risk. So go ahead, take control of your connections, and build the professional network you truly want.

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