# Resource created as part of the Fundamental Digital Literacy Skills Program

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# Setting Up an Email Account

There are several different ways to set up an email account, but the two most common are through a private company or through your Internet service provider.

- Companies like Google (Gmail) and Microsoft (Outlook) are very popular and offer free personal accounts. Gmail is one of the most widely-used providers.
- Contact your Internet service provider to see if you have access to an email address through them (Telus, Shaw, etc.).

# Gmail (https://www.google.com/intl/en-GB/gmail/about/#):

\*After each step, click the Next button on the screen

1) Click on the button titled Create New Account

## 2) Fill in the sign-up form

- Choose a username
- Choose a password
- Enter your name

\*You may need to add extra numbers or special characters to make it unique from all the other usernames, but do not worry – the website will tell you if you need to alter your username. The same goes for your password.

\*Write your username and password down so you do not forget them

# 3) Enter your cell phone number to receive a security code through text messaging

\*This is a security measure to ensure you are knowingly setting up this email account in your name

• If you do not have a cell phone, you may want to use a different email provider (like Outlook), or ask someone you trust if you can use theirs

# 4) Enter the verification code you received from the text into the online form

#### 5) Fill in the required personal information

\*Some information might be optional and it is up to you if you want to add that information – be aware that the more information you fill in, the more information is potentially visible to other people online

\*Adding a recovery email (if possible for you) is an added security measure

#### 6) Review the terms and conditions, and click the accept box

7) Explore your inbox!

## **Outlook** (https://outlook.live.com/owa/):

\*After each step, click the Next button on the screen

1) Click on the button titled Create Free Account

#### 2) Type in your chosen username

• As with Gmail accounts, you may need to add numbers or special characters to make your username unique

#### 3) Create and type in your password

- Write down both your username/password and keep them in a secure place, in case you forget
- 4) Type in your name
- 5) Enter more required personal information
- 6) Type the characters from the security image into the provided spot

\*This is known as a CAPCHA image and it is used to make sure a real person is creating the email account, rather than a program creating multiple fake ones

#### 7) Explore your inbox!