

# Twitter expands privacy on direct messages

20 April 2015



At the end of 2014, Twitter had 288 million monthly active users, sending 500 million [tweets](#) per day, according to the San Francisco-based company.

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Previously, direct messaging could only occur between two Twitter users "following" each other, which basically allowed both parties to see whatever they posted publicly.

As of Monday, a user can change the settings on his accounts to allow receipt of a direct message from anyone, including those who do not follow the user. In turn, the user can reply with a direct message to the sender, regardless of whether the sender follows the user, Twitter announced in a blog on its website.

Users who opt in can still take steps to block unwanted direct messages from a specific sender.

"We hope these changes help you connect more easily—and directly—on Twitter with the people, causes and businesses you care about most," Twitter said.

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