

How to add a Legacy Contact for your Apple ID

A Legacy Contact is someone you choose to have access to the data in your Apple account after your death. Learn about the information that's shared with your Legacy Contact and how to add one or more Legacy Contacts.

About Legacy Contacts

Starting in iOS 15.2, iPadOS 15.2, and macOS 12.1, you can add a Legacy Contact for your Apple ID. Adding a Legacy Contact is the easiest, most secure way to give someone you trust access to the data stored in your Apple account after your death. The data may include photos, messages, notes, files, apps you've downloaded, device backups, and more. Certain information, like movies, music, books, or subscriptions you purchased with your Apple ID, and data stored in your Keychain, like payment information and passwords, can't be accessed by your Legacy Contact. [Learn more about the data your Legacy Contact may be able to access.](#)

Your Legacy Contact can be anyone you choose, and you can designate more than one Legacy Contact. They don't even need an Apple ID or an Apple device.

To file an access request after you pass away, they'll just need:

- The access key that you generate when you choose them as your contact
- Your death certificate

Apple reviews requests from Legacy Contacts and gives them access to your Apple account data only after verifying this information. When access is approved, your Legacy Contact receives a special Apple ID that they can set up and use to access your account. Your Apple ID and password will no longer work, and Activation Lock is removed on any devices that use your Apple ID. [Learn how your Legacy Contact can request access to your Apple account.](#)