



**Bigo Live is a free app that lets users make videos or live-stream their activities to friends and strangers. Anyone can broadcast videos anytime and anywhere and connect to anyone. Streamers receive live comments from other users and can search for nearby users.**



## **BIGO LIVE**

The main features of Bigo Live:

- Users encouraged to chat with random strangers through video call
- offers Voice Chat rooms to talk to strangers via voice calls
- has filters like Instagram and Snapchat that let the user change their appearance



Available on Google Play Store rated Teen+ and parental guidance



Available on the Apple App store rated age 17+ with additional guidance warning of Infrequent/ Mild Realistic Violence, Frequent/ Intense Mature/ Suggestive Themes and Infrequent/ Mild Sexual Content and Nudity

### **What are the risks?**

**No robust age verification process**

**Requires personal information, like name, gender, and location**

**Allows users to search for local members**

- Like any live streaming app, there is a risk that a young person might see inappropriate sexual or violent content and may be encouraged to share more than they would like to.
- Apps that encourage users to live stream to strangers are often used by predators. Users have reported that content is mature, vulgar and violent and users' comments are often predatory and explicit.
- There is a risk of online bullying which can be increased if the user is identifiable through location settings. Live commentary on the streaming videos can often prompt bullying behavior.
- The platform rewards the streamers in the form of ranking and followers through monetary tips for achieving a larger fan base. This can lead to young people becoming obsessed with gaining followers and have a detrimental effect on mental health and well being.

### **Guide to setting up Parental Controls**

[www.internetmatters.org/setupsafe](http://www.internetmatters.org/setupsafe)

### **Starting conversations about Online Safety**

[www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/)

### **The latest advice and guidance on key online safety issues**

[www.childnet.com/](http://www.childnet.com/)