



Internet Safety

Some people are quite comfortable jumping around on the internet; others approach it more cautiously. To encourage those who don't feel comfortable online, here are a few tips for using the Golden Girls Canada site safely.

1. Your personal data is stored securely. No one else who logs onto our site can see any identifying information. You only share with other members what you would like them to know about you that will help them decide to contact you.
2. Many people set up a unique email account for internet use, through Google or Yahoo or another free provider. Then they access this account online so that email correspondence never reaches their own computer. An internet literate friend or family member can help you with that.
3. While it is probably safe to accept responders at face value while you are exchanging emails and a follow-up telephone interview, it is wise to arrange for a friend or family member to be present when you are showing your home to a potential housemate or if you are going to see someone's home. As well as the safety factor, it is always good to have a second opinion about the person. And always trust your intuition about them!
4. Once someone has seen your home, never make a decision on the spot. If your gut feeling is "No!" it's much easier to tell them by phone or email. Just say, "I'm sorry but I don't think it will work." Thank them and wish well with their search. You don't owe them an explanation. If your gut says, "Maybe" or even "Yes!" still take the time to check their references and source of income (to make sure they can pay the rent) before inviting them to share your home. You could also request a Police Information Check, but to be fair, you should have one on hand to provide for yourself.
5. If you find that someone has significantly misrepresented themselves, please inform Golden Home Sharing Connections so that we may take appropriate action in accordance with our Terms of Service.