GENERAL

how do you delete a contact on linkedin

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Introduction

LinkedIn has become the go-to platform for professionals to build networks, discover job opportunities, and share industry insights. As your network grows, you may find yourself with contacts that no longer align with your goals or who simply clutter your feed. Knowing how to delete a contact on LinkedIn is essential for maintaining a clean, relevant, and efficient professional profile. This guide walks you through every step—whether you're on a desktop, mobile browser, or the native app—while also covering best practices, alternatives, and common pitfalls.

Understanding LinkedIn Connections

LinkedIn's "Connections" feature is more than a list of names; it's a dynamic ecosystem that powers your feed, notifications, and networking opportunities. Each connection can:

- Share posts that appear in your feed.
- Send you messages and InMail.
- Allow you to endorse or recommend skills.
- Appear in suggested connections.

Because of this interconnectedness, removing a contact can have ripple effects—your feed may become quieter, and the person may lose visibility in your network.

Why Delete a Contact?

People choose to remove connections for several reasons:

- Relevance: The contact's industry or interests no longer match your professional focus.
- Privacy: You prefer to keep certain personal or professional information private.
- Clutter: An overly large network can dilute the relevance of your feed.
- Security: Removing a contact can prevent unwanted messages or spam.
- Professional Image: A lean, curated network can reflect a more intentional career strategy.

Step-by-Step: Deleting a Contact on Desktop

1. Log Into Your Account

Open LinkedIn.com and sign in with your credentials.

2. Navigate to the Connections Page

Click the "My Network" icon at the top of the homepage. Then select "Connections" from the dropdown menu.

3. Find the Contact to Remove

Use the search bar or scroll through your list. LinkedIn's search bar allows you to filter by name, company, or location.

4. Open the Contact's Profile

Click on the person's name to view their full profile.

5. Access the Connection Options

On the right side of their profile, locate the “More” button (three dots). Click it to open a dropdown menu.

6. Select “Remove Connection”

From the dropdown, click “Remove Connection.” A confirmation dialog will appear.

7. Confirm the Deletion

Click “Remove” again to finalize. The contact will be deleted from your list, and you will no longer see their posts in your feed.

Step-by-Step: Deleting a Contact on the LinkedIn Mobile App

1. Open the App and Sign In

Launch the LinkedIn app on iOS or Android and log in if you’re not already authenticated.

2. Access Your Network

Tap the “My Network” icon at the bottom of the screen.

3. Locate the Contact

Use the search bar or scroll through your connections until you find the person you want to remove.

4. Open Their Profile

Tap the contact’s name to view their profile details.

5. Open the Options Menu

On the profile page, tap the three-dot icon (•••) usually located near the “Message” button.

6. Choose “Remove Connection”

Select “Remove Connection” from the list of options.

7. Confirm the Action

Tap “Remove” on the confirmation prompt. The connection is now gone.

Step-by-Step: Deleting a Contact via Mobile Browser

While the experience is similar to the app, the layout differs slightly.

1. Open your mobile browser and go to linkedin.com.
2. Tap the profile icon in the bottom right and select “My Network.”
3. Use the search field to find the contact.
4. Open the contact’s profile and tap the “More” button.
5. Select “Remove Connection” and confirm.

Bulk Removal: Managing Multiple Connections

If you need to delete several contacts at once, LinkedIn doesn’t provide a native bulk delete feature. However, you can streamline the process:

- Use Filters: Narrow down by industry, location, or company before removing individually.
- Browser Extensions: Some third party tools can automate the removal process, but use them with caution and

respect LinkedIn’s terms of service.

- LinkedIn Sales Navigator: Offers advanced filtering and bulk actions for sales professionals.

Alternatives to Deleting a Connection

Sometimes you might want to keep a connection but limit interaction. Consider these options:

- Unfollow: Remove their posts from your feed while staying connected.
- Block: Prevent the person from viewing your profile or contacting you. This is more restrictive than removal.
- Mute: Silence notifications from a specific contact.

How to Unfollow a Connection

1. Visit their profile.
2. Click the “Following” button.
3. Select “Unfollow.”

How to Block a User

1. Open the user’s profile.
2. Tap the three-dot menu.
3. Select “Report / Block.”
4. Confirm the block.

What Happens When You Delete a Contact?

Removing a connection triggers several changes:

- Both parties lose the ability to send each other InMail.
- LinkedIn’s algorithm stops recommending the removed contact.
- The contact no longer appears in your feed or notifications.
- Any endorsements or recommendations remain, but you can choose to delete them separately.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Assuming Deletion is Permanent: While you can’t “undo” a removal, you can reconnect later.
- Deleting Without Reviewing: Double check that you’re removing the right person, especially if names are similar.
- Ignoring Privacy Settings: After removal, your profile visibility may still be partially exposed to the former connection unless you adjust settings.
- Over Blocking: Blocking removes all interaction, which may be unnecessary if you just want less noise.

FAQs About Removing Connections

Can I Reconnect with a Removed Contact?

Yes. Once you remove a connection, you can send a new connection request at any time.

Will My Profile Still Show Up to a Removed Connection?

It depends on your privacy settings. If you’ve set your profile to “public,” they can still view it unless you block them.

Does Removing a Connection Affect My Endorsements?

No. Endorsements remain unless you manually delete them.

Is There a Way to Export My Connections Before Deleting?

Yes. Go to “Settings & Privacy” > “Data Privacy” > “Get a copy of your data” and request your connections list.

How Does Deleting a Connection Impact My Recommendations?

Recommendations you’ve received remain on your profile. However, you can delete or edit them individually.

Maintaining a Healthy LinkedIn Network

Regularly reviewing and pruning your connections can keep your feed relevant and your profile secure. Here are a few best practices:

- Schedule Quarterly Reviews: Set a reminder to audit your network every three months.
- Use the “People You May Know” Feature Wisely: Accept suggestions that align with your goals.
- Engage Selectively: Like, comment, or share content from those who add value.
- Leverage Groups: Join industry-specific groups to discover new, relevant contacts.

Conclusion

Knowing how to delete a contact on LinkedIn empowers you to curate a professional network that truly serves your career objectives. Whether you’re cleaning up a cluttered feed, protecting your privacy, or simply aligning your connections with new goals, the steps are straightforward across desktop, mobile app, and browser. By combining strategic removal with thoughtful engagement, you’ll keep your LinkedIn presence sharp, relevant, and effective.

Tags: #delete #contact #linkedin