

Law Enforcement

What is Formspring?

Formspring is a free online social networking service that allows users to create their own profile page where they can answer questions. They can also ask questions of others by visiting their profile pages.

Questions can be asked in one of 3 ways:

1. Anonymous. This option does not require that the person asking the question be a registered member of Formspring. However, we do capture IP addresses for anonymous questions.
2. Anonymous but logged in. This means that a logged in Formspring user prefers to ask their question anonymously. Again, we capture the IP address for the questioner along with their username.
3. As a logged in Formspring user. This means that the username of the person that asks the question is known to the recipient of the question. We capture the IP address along with the username for a given question.

It is important to understand that the individual Formspring account holder decides what type of question they will allow to be asked on their profile. They have the choice to accept questions all 3 ways or only methods 2 and 3 or only method 3. It's also important to recognize that regardless of how a question is asked, it does not appear publicly on a profile until it is answered.

Information we have

User Profile:

Much of Formspring profile information is public, so everyone can see it. A Formspring profile contains a name, the total number of questions answered, and the list of the public questions and answers. In addition, the user has the option to fill out a location, include a URL, a profile image, a background image, and write a short bio about themselves. The questions answered on a profile page update in real time, so the newest information is always available at the top.

Other Profile Data:

In addition to what's on a user's public profile, we have the email address associated with the account, the most recent IP address used to sign in to the account, account creation date, date the account was last used, and the date of birth for the profile holder. Additionally, if the user has associated other services, such as Facebook, with their Formspring profile, we have the account ID for that account as well.

Data about Questions: Questions will appear on a profile page with the username of the

Legal Process Receipt Policies

We can receive legal processes in the following ways:

Email – legal@formspring.me, and identity@formspring.me

Fax – 888.688.5964

Mail – 182 Howard Street, #531, San Francisco, CA 94105-1611

Legal Process Guidelines

Preservation Letter – This preserves content of a profile page. Technically, we don't need these as we preserve the data, even if the account is deleted. EXCEPTION: If the user deletes a question – answered or unanswered – we will not have IP information. In this case, make sure you ask what information they are requesting to ensure that we preserve anything that might be deleted by the user.

Subpoena – This grants us the right release user information, IP logs, log-in times, etc. to law enforcement. This can include any information that is publicly viewable on the site.

Search Warrant – This is needed if law enforcement/attorneys/etc. request information for a profile that has been deleted or disabled and is no longer viewable to the public. This includes, questions and answers from and to a user that has disabled or deleted his/her account. This can be served in lieu of a subpoena and also grants user information/IP logs to law enforcement.

asker if not anonymous, or without one if anonymous. Regardless, Formspring maintains the IP address for the source of the question. We record the time a question is asked as well as the time it's answered.

If the user deletes a question we do not retain it nor any information about it.

Data Retention: Formspring maintains all data for at least 90 days, and maintains account information for at least 180 days.

How to obtain data:

Formspring accepts legal process delivered by mail, fax or e-mail. Acceptance of legal process by facsimile and email is for our convenience only and does not waive any objections, including the lack of jurisdiction or proper service. In order to expedite the response, legal process should include the username of the Formspring profile(s) in question, and details about what specific information is requested. Formspring conducts most correspondence via e-mail, so please include an e-mail address when you contact us.

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