

This **Twitter 101 Guide** was produced by Jessie Mawson for the Progress Network. You can find it and more resources at [australianprogress.org.au/network](http://australianprogress.org.au/network).

**140 characters.** (But aim for 120 so people have space to retweet you). It's good to:

**Add links** to an article you're reading or an event you're attending. Copy-and-paste (it automatically creates a short link) or be on the webpage itself then hit the Twitter icon.

**Add pictures** you take on your phone (embrace the selfie! Particularly if you're at a special even/with notable people).

**Refer to people by their 'Twitter handle'** (ie @jessiemawson) If you're following the person, their handle should autocomplete.

**Tweet as-it-happens.** People love to be in the know. Up-to-the-minute tweets win.

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## THE LINGO

**Retweet (RT)** Two methods:

Official method -- Hit the 'retweet' button in Twitter and the tweet will be retweeted from your account verbatim. An arrow symbol will indicate to others that it's a retweet.

Manual method -- Add your own comment, then write *RT* (to indicate it's a retweet) and copy-and-paste the person's twitter handle and tweet.  
Example: *So true. RT @JessieMawson: Human rights rock!*

**Modified Tweet (MT)** Like a retweet but shortened for space.

**Via** If you tweet content from an official news source and want to give credit within the tweet.  
Example: *Wow. This article shocked me:*  
<http://www.blah.com> via @SMH

**CC or 'Ping':** If you want to draw someone's attention to a tweet that's not exclusively addressed to them (just like CC in an email).  
Example: *I'm guest speaker at the UNSW human rights conference this Sunday cc @AmnestyOz*

## WHO CAN SEE WHAT?

**Normal tweet** (all your followers can see)  
Example: *My heart goes out to those in Syria right now.*

**Mentions** (all your followers can see AND the person you've mentioned will be alerted)  
Example: *Saw an amazing doco about CAR crisis with @ClaireMallinson this afternoon.*

**Tweeting at someone** (The person you're tweeting will be alerted AND anyone who follows both of you can see)  
Example: *@JessieMawson thanks so much for the Twitter tips. I'm getting the hang of it now!*

**Replying** (Same as tweeting at someone)  
Example: *@KarenAmnestyOz you're very welcome! I was happy to help.*

**Direct Message** (Only the person you're DM-ing can see. You can only DM a person who's following you. This is the only truly private tweet type (isn't viewable via your profile) but shouldn't be used for confidential info.)  
Example: *DM @JessieMawson you're my favourite Amnesty colleague. Don't tell the others!*

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## #HASHTAGS

Use max 2 per tweet to track or join a particular conversation. Can be specific (#TruthAboutManus #FreeAJStaff) or general (#Syria #HumanRights)