



## TikTok rolls out tools to bulk delete and report comments, block users

TikTok is introducing a feature that will allow creators to deal with online abuse in an easier way. The company is launching new tools that will allow creators to bulk delete comments and block users, instead of having to moderate comments one-by-one.

The new bulk delete feature may allow creators to clean up their comment section and block trolls quickly enough that they can re-establish some semblance of control over their profile.

To use the new feature, users can long-press on a comment or tap the pencil icon in the upper-left corner to open a window of options. From here, they can select up to 100 comments or accounts instead of going one by one, making it easier to delete or report multiple comments or block users in bulk.

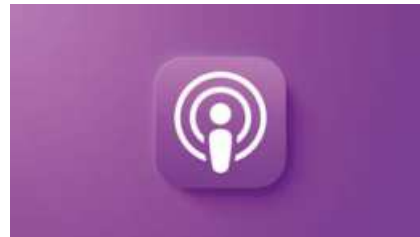
TikTok says the new feature is rolling out first to Great Britain, South Korea, Spain, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam and Thailand, and will continue to expand to other markets globally in the weeks to come, including the US.

## Apple launches an affiliate program for paid podcast subscriptions

Apple is introducing a new program that will help podcast creators grow their subscriber base: affiliate marketing. The company's "Apple Services Performance Partner Program," which already exists to help market other Apple services like Apple TV, Apple News and Apple Books, is today expanding to include paid podcasts.

The new program — "Apple Services Performance Partner Program for Apple Podcasts" will be open to anyone. When users convert by clicking through one of the links and subscribe to a premium podcast, the partner will receive a one-time commission at 50% of the podcast subscription price, after the subscriber accumulates their first month of paid service. Podcast creators can also use the affiliate links to promote their own paid programs, which would allow them to generate incremental revenue.

While anyone can apply to join the affiliate program, there is an approval



process involved. This is mainly about keeping spammers out of the program, and ensuring that those signing up do have at least some marketing channels where they can distribute the links. The sign-up form asks for specific criteria — like how many channels are available and how the partner intends to use them to promote the affiliate links, among other things.

The program will be made available to anyone in the 170 countries and regions where paid podcast subscriptions are being made available.

## Google launches AI-powered health tool to identify skin conditions

Google's is introducing a web tool that uses artificial intelligence to help people identify skin, hair, or nail conditions. The company hopes to launch a pilot later this year.

The team trained the model on millions of images of skin problems, thousands of images of healthy skin, and 65,000 images from clinical settings. The model takes factors like age, skin type, sex, and race into account when suggesting possible conditions. When it was tested on around 1,000 images of skin problems from a diverse range of patients, Google claims that it



identified the correct condition in the top three suggestions 84 per cent of the time. It included the correct condition as one of the possible issues 97 per cent of the time.

People can use their phone's camera to take three pictures of the problem area and answer a series of questions about their skin type and other symptoms. The tool then gives a list of possible conditions from a set of 288 that it's trained to recognise. It's not intended to diagnose the problem, the company said in a blog post.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

## Managing many things at once: Do we have what it takes?

Side hustles seem like a lucrative opportunity to many, but can we really pull it off? In today's feature, we talk about some myths regarding side hustles and share facts about what it takes to fully pull it off.

In the pop-culture section, we bring you a super fun review of 'Army of The Dead'. Along with our regular tech updates where we list out best laptop options for you under a budget, we also bring you CV writing tips and talk about taking baby steps towards reducing the digital carbon footprint.

Nahaly Nafisa Khan, *Sub-editor*

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## Walton launches new gaming smartphone

Walton has launched its new smartphone 'Primo R8'. The mid-range device comes with attractive features like a powerful processor, large display, dual camera, powerful battery, RAM-ROM and Type-C charging port.

Priced at BDT 10,699, Primo R8 comes in Ocean Green, Gradient Purple and Magic Blue. The phone is available at all Walton Plazas, brand and retail outlets across the country as well as at Walton's own online shop E-Plaza.

The phone features a 6.5-inch 20.9 ratio dew-drop display with 1600 by 720 pixels HD Plus screen resolutions. The capacitive touch screen smartphone

with IPS Incell technology also has dust and scratch-resistant 2.5D curved glass.

Running on the Android 10 operating system, it uses a 2.3 GHz 12nm Helio G35 SoC octa-core processor with hyper engine technology, 4 GB RAM and PowerVR GE8320 graphics. The internal memory of the phone is 64 GB that can be expandable up to 128 GB via a micro SD card.

The device also comes with an f/1.8 aperture AI dual camera with PDAF technology and LED flash.

Customers will get a 30 days' instant replacement facility along with a one-year service warranty for the 'Made in Bangladesh' smartphone.

