

# Why Do You See "This Story is Unavailable" on Instagram?

## TechRounder PDF Edition

Live article: <https://www.techrounder.com/social-media/why-do-you-see-this-story-is-unavailable-on-instagram/>

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### In brief

Instagram stories are one of the platform's most popular features, allowing users to share fleeting content that disappears after 24 hours. However, you might encounter an error message saying, "This Story is Unavailable" when trying to view a story.

Instagram stories are one of the platform's most popular features, allowing users to share fleeting content that disappears after 24 hours. However, you might encounter an error message saying, "This Story is Unavailable" when trying to view a story. Why does this happen, and how can you fix it? Let's dive into the possible reasons and solutions.

## Common Reasons for the "This Story is Unavailable" Error

### 1. The Story Has Been Deleted

- Instagram allows users to delete their stories anytime before the 24-hour expiration period. If a story is deleted by its poster, attempting to view it will result in the "This Story is Unavailable" error.
- Shared links to deleted stories in DMs will also lead to the same message.

### 2. The Story Has Expired

- Instagram stories are visible only for 24 hours. If you try to view a story after its time limit, it will no longer be accessible.
- Occasionally, glitches may display a "Story" ring on the profile icon, but tapping on it shows the "This Story is Unavailable" error.

### 3. You Don't Have Permission

- The uploader might restrict story visibility to their followers or a select group of people (Close Friends list). If you're outside this circle, the story will appear unavailable.

### 4. The Account Is Private

- Stories from private accounts are visible only to their approved followers. If you're not a follower, you can't view their content.

### 5. You're Blocked

- If the story uploader has blocked your account, their content, including stories, will be inaccessible.

### 6. Instagram Removed the Story

- Instagram enforces strict community guidelines. If a story violates these policies or is flagged for copyright infringement, Instagram may remove it.

### 7. Technical Glitches

- Issues like a poor internet connection or server errors can lead to the "This Story is Unavailable" error.

# How to Fix the "This Story is Unavailable" Error

Here are actionable steps to resolve the issue:

## 1. Refresh Your Feed or Restart Instagram

- Sometimes, refreshing your Instagram feed can clear outdated stories. If the error persists, log out and log back into your account.

## 2. Ensure a Stable Internet Connection

- A poor or unstable internet connection can prevent Instagram from loading stories. Check your Wi-Fi or mobile data and switch between networks if necessary.

## 3. Check the Story Highlights

- Many users save their stories as highlights, making them permanently available on their profiles. Visit the user's profile to see if the story is saved as a highlight.

## 4. Use an Alternate Account

- If you've been blocked or the story is hidden from you, try viewing it from another account (with the owner's permission) or ask a friend to check it for you.

## 5. Clear Instagram Cache

- Cached data can sometimes cause glitches. Follow these steps to clear your Instagram cache:  
- Android : Go to Settings > Apps > Instagram > Storage > Clear Cache . iPhone/iPad: Offload the Instagram app via Settings > General > iPhone Storage > Instagram.

## 6. Update the Instagram App

- Outdated apps are prone to bugs. Check for updates in the Google Play Store or App Store , install them, and restart the app.

## 7. Send a Follow Request (If the Account Is Private)

- If the account is private, sending a follow request is the only way to gain access to their stories.

## 8. Use Instagram Web

- Sometimes, switching to the web version of Instagram ( [www.instagram.com](http://www.instagram.com) ) can bypass app-specific glitches.

## 9. Check Instagram Server Status

- Instagram servers occasionally face outages. Visit Downtdetector to check if Instagram is down globally.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. How Do You Know If Someone Hid Their Story From You?

- Ask a mutual follower if they can see the story.
- Check the person's highlights.
- Use an alternate account to confirm.

### 2. What Does "This Story is No Longer Available" Mean?

- It means the story has either expired or been deleted by the uploader.

### **3. Can You View Someone's Story if They Restrict You?**

- Yes, unless they've specifically hidden the story from you. Restrictions do not block story visibility.

### **Conclusion**

The "This Story is Unavailable" error can be frustrating, but understanding its causes and knowing how to troubleshoot can save you time. Always check the possible reasons-whether it's technical, privacy-related, or account-specific-and follow the steps mentioned above to resolve the issue.

### **References**

1. instagram.com - <http://www.instagram.com>
2. downdetector.com - <https://downdetector.com>