



# Cyber Security Tips

## What is Cyber Security?

**Cyber security** focuses on protecting computers, networks, programs and data from unintended or unauthorized access, change or destruction.

The prevalence of cyber-crime has rapidly increased over the past few years. To help you be safer and more secure online we have compiled a list of simple steps you can take against cyber threats.

## Basic Internet Security Tips

**Keep security software current.** Having the latest security software, web browser, and operating system are the best defenses against viruses, malware, and other online threats.

**Automate software updates.** Many software programs will automatically connect and update to defend against known risks. Turn on automatic updates if that is an available option.

**Protect all devices that connect to the internet.** Along with computers, smart phones, gaming systems, and other web-enabled devices also need protection from viruses and malware.

**Make passwords long and strong.** Combine capital and lowercase letters with numbers and symbols to create a more secure password.

**Think before you click.** Only open emails or attachments from people you know. Don't click on any link unless you know you can trust the source and you are certain of where the link will send you.

## Mobile Device Security Tips

**Secure your device.** Activate key-lock features and/or use a passcode. If your device allows for a complex password, take advantage of the feature.

**Protect your personal information.** When using a public, unsecured wireless connection, avoid using

apps or websites that require you to enter a password. This applies to the wireless networks provided on many airlines, as well as Wi-Fi connections in places like coffee shops, hotels, airports and libraries.

**Connect with care.** Switch off your Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connections when not in use to help prevent malicious parties from connecting to your device without your knowledge. If you're banking or shopping, remember, a 3G or 4G connection is safer than an unsecured Wi-Fi connection.

**Think before you app.** Only download apps from reputable sources, like verified app stores. Understand what information (i.e., location, social networking profiles, etc.) the app would access and share before you download.

## **How to Report Cyber Crime**

### **The Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3)**

<http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>

### **Federal Trade Commission**

FTC Hotline: 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4388)

<http://www.ftc.gov/IDTheft>

**Contact your local law enforcement office**