



COMPUTER SECURITY TIPS



1. PROTECT YOUR COMPUTER

- INSTALL ANTI-VIRUS SOFTWARE**
Scans your computer for malicious software ("malware") that can steal login ids, passwords and account information. Can remove or quarantine malware and infected files.
- USE A FIREWALL PROGRAM**
Guards against unauthorized access to your computer. This can be a feature of an anti-virus package.
- SAFEGUARD YOUR SMART PHONE AND TABLET**
Reduce your risk of downloading "apps" (applications) that contain malware by using well-known app stores.

2. UNDERSTAND YOUR INTERNET SAFETY FEATURES

- USE SECURE WEB ACCESS**
Look for a padlock symbol on the page and a Web address that starts with "https://."
The "s" stands for "secure."
- BE CAREFUL WHERE AND HOW YOU CONNECT**
A public computer, such as at an Internet cafe or hotel business center, may not have up-to-date security software and could be infected with malware.
- LIMIT ACTIVITIES AT A PUBLIC "HOT SPOT"**
For online banking or shopping, avoid connecting to a wireless network at a public "hot spot" (such as a coffee shop, hotel or airport).



3. BE SUSPICIOUS OF UNEXPECTED E-MAILS OR TEXTS

- DON'T RELY ON CORPORATE OR GOVERNMENT LOGOS**
It's easy for fraudsters to copy corporate or government logos into fake e-mails that can install malware on your computer.
- IGNORE THE UNEXPECTED E-MAIL OR TEXT?**
Your best bet is to ignore any unexpected request for immediate action or personal information, no matter how genuine it looks.
- CHECKING AN UNEXPECTED REQUEST**
If you decide to check the request by contacting who it is supposedly from, use a phone number or e-mail address that you have used before or otherwise know to be correct. Don't rely on the one provided in the e-mail.

4. PERSONAL INFORMATION SAFETY

- USE "STRONG" PASSWORDS AND KEEP THEM SECRET**
Choose combinations of upper- and lower-case letters, numbers and symbols that are hard for a hacker to guess.
- TAKE PRECAUTIONS ON SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES**
Criminals can go there to gather details such as someone's date or place of birth, mother's maiden name or favorite pet and use that information to figure out and reset passwords.

