



Keeping yourself **safe on the internet and in the digital world** around you doesn't have to be hard!  
Here are some helpful tips to stay safe and secure online.



## DEVICES

- When using smart home devices and digital assistants, remember that they are only as secure as you make them!
- Regularly back up the data on your devices (cell phones/computers/tablets) preferably to an external source.



## PASSWORDS

- Make each password a phrase and as unique as possible.
- When choosing a password, remember: the longer the better!
- If you need help keeping track of all your unique passwords, you can use a password manager.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

- When posting on social media, never share sensitive information like location or vacation plans.
- Stay skeptical of what you see online, on social media or in ads – ask a friend or family member before acting.
- Everything you post online will stay online **forever** so think twice before you hit send/post.



## SCAMS

- Scams can come in many forms, from emails saying you've won a prize to calls from fake government agencies.
- If you fall victim to a scam, stay calm, change your passwords, gather as much information as possible, and contact your financial institutions and law enforcement.



## DEFENDING YOURSELF

- To help defend your technology from malware attacks, get anti-virus protection and keep it updated regularly.
- Set up automatic updates for your operating system, internet browser, software/apps and anti-virus protection to keep yourself secure!
- When using your credit/debit card online, verify that you're on a reputable and valid website – whether shopping, donating or anything else.



## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

- AI refers to technology/computers programmed to do tasks that humans typically do.
- When using generative AI tools, avoid using the email account you use for banking, work, social media, etc.
- Be discreet and diligent by giving AI chatbots parameters instead of personal information.
- Voice deepfakes are an emerging threat – establish a safe word to determine if an urgent phone request is coming from a family member in distress – ***pause before taking action.***



## PHISHING

- Beware of phishing attacks - they can come in multiple forms: phone calls, text messages and email!
- Practice safe email habits by never following links/instructions from unknown sources.
- Always question what you see and never send sensitive information if you're unsure about a request.