

Tips for Securing your Devices at Home

May 2020





Awareness



Backups



Patching

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Desktop & Laptop Computers



- know what you have to lose
- use a firewall and anti-malware
- install updates for your operating system and apps
- back up your important data
...and then disconnect the device
- consider using a password manager
- don't click suspicious links and attachments
- use strong passwords and don't share them (better yet use 2FA)

...at work and at home

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Passwords



Who has heard this advice?

- use strong passwords
- don't share them with anyone
- include uppercase, lowercase, punctuation, numbers, and symbols
- make sure they are 8 characters long
- don't use the same one twice
- don't write them down
- change them every day

NO!

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Backups (Personal)

- 1) buy a storage device
- 2) connect to your computer
- 3) copy files to it
- 4) disconnect from computer
- 5) repeat on a schedule



4 TB = ~\$100



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Safe Browsing



- surf to only reputable sites
- watch for the lock/secure browsing
- consider different browsers or computers for general browsing vs banking
- consider a popup/ad blocker
- consider blocking scripts or at least check browser settings are correct...

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Browser Settings

Other Google services

- Autocomplete searches and URLs
Sends some cookies and searches from the address bar and search box to your default search engine ☒
- Show suggestions for similar pages when a page can't be found
Sends the web address of the page you're trying to reach to Google ☒
- Safe Browsing (protects you and your device from dangerous sites)**
Sends URLs of some pages you visit to Google, when your security is at risk ☒
- Help improve Chrome security
To detect dangerous apps and sites, Chrome sends URLs of some pages you visit, limited system information, and some page content to Google ☐
- Help improve Chrome's features and performance
Automatically sends usage statistics and crash reports to Google ☐
- Make searches and browsing better
Sends URLs of pages you visit to Google ☐
- Enhanced spell check
To fix spelling errors, Chrome sends the text you type in the browser to Google ☐

← Cookies and site data

- Allow sites to save and read cookie data (recommended) ☒
- Clear cookies and site data when you quit Chrome ☐
- Block third-party cookies**
Prevent third-party websites from saving and reading cookie data ☐
- See all cookies and site data

- review browser privacy & security settings
- clear browsing data on occasion

Privacy and security

- Sync and Google services
More settings that relate to privacy, security, and data collection
- Allow Chrome sign-in
By turning this off, you can sign in to Google sites like Gmail without signing in to Chrome ☒
- Send a "Do Not Track" request with your browsing traffic** ☐
- Allow sites to check if you have payment methods saved ☒
- Preload pages for faster browsing and searching
Uses cookies to remember your preferences, even if you don't visit those pages ☐
- Manage certificates
Manage HTTPS/SSL certificates and settings
- Site Settings
Control what information websites can use and what content they can show you
- Clear browsing data**
Clear history, cookies, cache, and more

Social Media

The image shows two screenshots from a Facebook account. The top screenshot displays the 'Your Facebook Information' settings page. On the left is a navigation menu with options like 'Your Groups', 'Advertising on Facebook', 'Activity Log', 'News Feed Preferences', 'Settings', 'Switch to New Facebook', and 'Log Out'. The main content area lists various settings categories such as 'General', 'Security and Login', 'Your Facebook Information', 'Privacy', 'Timeline and Tagging', 'Stories', 'Location', 'Blocking', 'Language and Region', 'Face Recognition', 'Notifications', 'Mobile', 'Public Posts', 'Apps and Websites', 'Instant Games', 'Business Integrations', 'Payments', 'Support Inbox', and 'Videos'. The 'Your Facebook Information' section includes a statement about viewing or deleting information, and a table of links to manage different types of information.

Your Facebook Information		
You can view or download your information and delete your account at any time.		
Access Your Information	View your information by category.	View
Transfer a Copy of Your Photos or Videos	Transfer your photos or videos to another service.	View
Download Your Information	Download a copy of your information to keep, or to transfer to another service.	View
Activity Log	View and manage your information and some settings.	View
Off-Facebook Activity	View or clear activity from businesses and organizations you visit off of Facebook.	View
Managing Your Information	Learn more about how you can manage your information.	View
Deactivation and Deletion	Temporarily deactivate or permanently delete your account.	View

The bottom screenshot shows the 'Off-Facebook Activity' page. It has a 'Clear History' button at the top right. The main text explains that off-Facebook activity includes information shared by businesses and organizations. Below this, it states 'You have no available activity to show at this time.' On the left, there are sections for 'Future Off-Facebook Activity' (with a toggle switch) and 'Activity You've Turned Off' (with a right arrow).

- review your privacy and security settings on social media
- new 'features' are added and agreements are changed
- some features are enabled by default
- customers may not be aware

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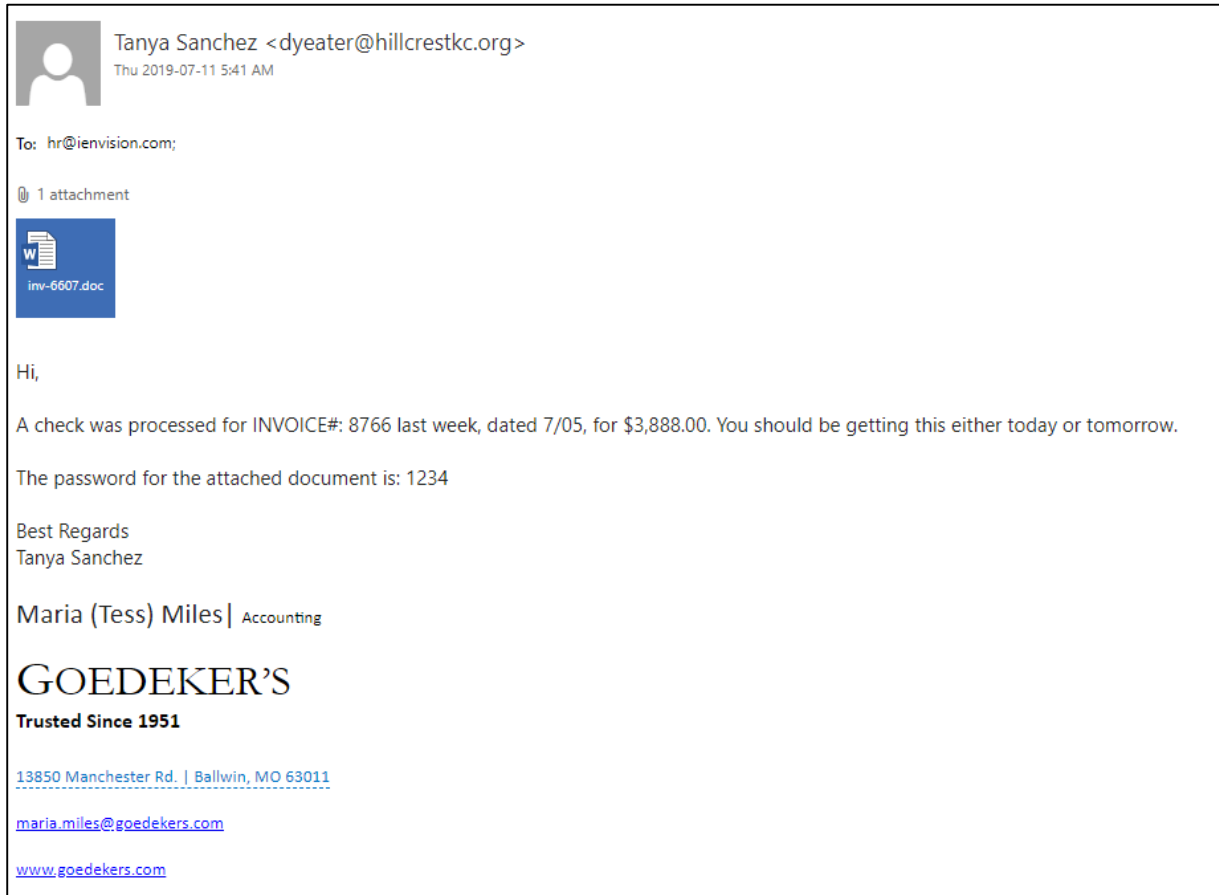
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Emails & Phishing (Example)



- phishing is effective
 - create a sense of urgency
 - play on people's emotions
- consider
 - look at the from address, subject, to address
 - beware attachments including PDF, doc, and docx
 - beware links – hover over
 - what are they asking you to do?

It can happen to anyone...

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- change default username, password, SSID
- disable guest, generic accounts
- enable encryption (use WPA2)
- consider disabling SSID broadcast
- consider multiple WiFi networks for different purposes (eg. IOT)
- limit broadcast strength
- exercise caution on public WiFi (and consider VPN)

Do you know what SSID you are connected to? How do you know it's the right one?

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Shaw)

0% ☒ Internet ☒ Wi-Fi ☒ MoCA ☒ Medium Security

Gateway > Login

Username:

Password:

Please login to view your Wi-Fi passkey or to view and edit detailed network settings.

Wi-Fi Configuration

Wi-Fi SSID (2.4GHz): Opea xb6

Wi-Fi Passkey (2.4GHz): Log in to view passkey

Wi-Fi SSID (5GHz): Opea XB6 5 GHz

Wi-Fi Passkey (5GHz): Log in to view passkey

Home Network

☒ Ethernet

☒ Wi-Fi

☒ MoCA

Firewall Security Level: Medium

Connected Devices

Host Name	MAC Address	Connection Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CarmensiPhone3	98:E0:D9:69:C3:60	Wi-Fi 2.4G
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> iPhone	D8:CF:9C:18:38:19	Wi-Fi 2.4G
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> android-224a5276f51914b	34:FC:EF:D9:76:F3	Wi-Fi 2.4G
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Samsung-Galaxy-S7-edge	A4:08:EA:77:F3:A9	Wi-Fi 2.4G
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MichellPodtouch	B8:F6:B1:3D:9A:09	Wi-Fi 2.4G

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Exercise

1. check the IP address on your computer
2. surf to the IP address listed as the default gateway (eg. 192.168.1.1)
3. log into your residential gateway router
4. review your username and password
5. review the SSID
6. **review the devices connected to your network and see if you can identify each one**

SmartPhones



- set a strong PIN and don't share it with anyone
- install updates for OS and apps (or turn on auto-updates)
- don't root or jailbreak your phone
- don't "sideload" apps from "unknown sources"
- consider whether an anti-malware program is useful

At work follow company rules...

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Internet of Things



- protect with a firewall
- consider a separate network
- ensure patched / updates installed
- read the fine print / agreement
- beware the app
- weigh the benefits and implications (eg. what does it tell people about you)
- disable guest/default accounts
- change default passwords

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Summary

- attacks are increasing in frequency and everyone needs to take steps to protect themselves at work and at home
- ensure the steps you take are proportionate with what you have to lose
- focus on doing the basics consistently to stop 80% of the problems
- stay alert - watch for anything out of the ordinary and think before you click
- remember... security is everyone's responsibility and you're not alone...

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