

# Tips to safeguard your online privacy

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January is Data Privacy Month and this year's theme is Privacy Matters. In today's digital age, protecting your online privacy is more important than ever. Here are some tips to help you protect your online privacy:

## 1. Use strong, unique passwords

Using strong, unique passwords for each of your online accounts is one of the most fundamental steps in protecting your data. Avoid using easily guessable combinations like "123456" or "password." Instead, opt for complex passwords containing a mix of upper and lower-case letters, numbers, and special characters.

## 2. Enable two-factor authentication (2FA)

2FA adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second form of authentication, usually a code sent to your mobile device. This ensures that even if someone obtains your password, they still won't be able to access your accounts without the additional code.

## 3. Be cautious with social media

Be mindful of what you share on social media platforms. Avoid disclosing personal information like your home address, phone number, or financial details. Adjust your privacy settings to limit who can view your posts and information.

## 4. Beware of phishing attacks

Phishing is a common tactic used by cybercriminals to trick individuals into revealing personal information. Always double-check the sender's email address, and avoid clicking on suspicious links or providing sensitive information in response to unsolicited emails.

## 5. Limit personal information on public wi-fi

When using public Wi-Fi, avoid accessing sensitive accounts or sharing personal information. Hackers often target these networks to intercept data.

## 6. Review app permissions

Review the permissions granted to apps on your devices. Some apps request access to more data than they actually need. Only grant permissions that are necessary for the app's functionality.

## **7. Secure your mobile devices**

Enable security features like passcodes, fingerprints or facial recognition on your mobile devices. In case your device is lost or stolen, these features provide an extra layer of protection.

By following these tips, you can significantly enhance your online privacy and reduce the risk of falling victim to cyber threats. Remember, your data is valuable. Stay vigilant and take proactive measures to safeguard your digital life.

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