

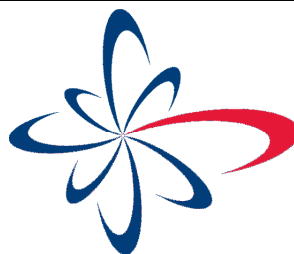
What are the risks

There are many ways
for online "criminals" to affect you:

- Infect your computer with spyware to steal your identity
- You can get ripped off, have your identity stolen and fall for frauds
- Mess up your computer with pop-ups and viruses
- Take over your computer and use it to attack other people
- Hit you with spam and scam emails
- Force you into visiting fake websites and handing over personal information
- Hack into your wireless network
- Use email and chat

What may be infected?

- Your privacy
- Your time
- Your cash
- Your reputation
- Your computer



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Online Security

Security over the Internet



Browsing on the internet allows end-users to get informed, educated, entertained, communicate and conduct electronic transactions. Overall, its use is widely appreciated as very important and its applications considerably improve citizens' life

However, there are specific risks that are associated with the internet use and all end-users should be aware of. This will proactively prevent the misuse of internet applications and services

How to protect your PC

Online criminals are trying to attack your computer, either to steal from you or to attack other people.

You need a multi-layered defense to keep them out:

- Security software: anti-virus, anti-spyware and a firewall or security suite that includes all three.
- Keeping your computer up to date, blocking spam emails and using an up to date web browser.
- Making a regular backup of your music, pictures and other files.
- It's also a good idea not to use your computer in administrator mode.
- Lastly, protect yourself against eavesdroppers and freeloaders by using encryption on your wireless network.



How to protect your family from internet

Although the Internet is a valuable resource and generally a positive place for kids, the risk of harm is very real. Understand these risks and educate yourself and your family about the issues.

Internet risks for kids

- Exposure to Adult, Racist or Other Disturbing Material
- Meeting with Predators Online
- Invasion of Privacy
- Careless Use of File-Sharing (or Peer-to-Peer) Programs

Basic tips for parents

- ♦ Discuss the Dangers of the Internet with Your Children
- ♦ Become Computer Literate
- ♦ Use Parental Controls and Blocking Software
- ♦ Maintain Access to Your Child's E-Mail Account
- ♦ Pay Attention to What Your Kids do Online

How to take care of your identity and privacy

Your identity and your reputation are very precious. Online "criminals" will try to trick you into giving them your information. Their purpose is for you to spend your money, tap your bank account and use your credit cards.

Protect yourself against this kind of phishing and spoofing:

- Block unwanted spam email.
- Use a modern web browser that will warn you against known phishing websites
- Don't give away your password or any other personal information.



Remember that there's no delete button on the internet; if you publish something, you have no control over how it is stored, copied or archived.

How to avoid e-transactions fraud

Online shopping and banking is safe and secure if you follow a few simple guidelines and use your common sense.

If you're shopping online, look for clear signs that you are buying from a reputable company:

- Do they have a real-world presence? Can you see their address and phone number?
- Is their website secure? Look for 'https://' and the golden padlock.
- Do they have clear privacy and returns policies?
- If you're not convinced, search for the company and call them for details.

If you're using an online auction site, a few simple steps can make things safer:

- Before you start, understand the auction process, the site rules.
- Get to know the buyer or seller; ask questions and check their feedback.

Additionally, you should exercise to spot cases that could possibly lead to fraud:

- They will promise huge rewards: lottery wins, lost inheritances etc.
- A false sense of urgency
- Odd, superfluous details
- Requests for upfront payments or private information