



Guard Your Privacy When Offline or Traveling

Planning a spring break vacation? People are frequently more vulnerable when traveling because a break from their regular routine or encounters with unfamiliar situations often result in less cautious behavior. If this sounds like you, or someone you know, these six tips will help you protect yourself and guard your privacy.

Track that device! Install a device finder or manager on your mobile device in case it's lost or stolen. Make sure it has remote wipe capabilities and also protects against malware.

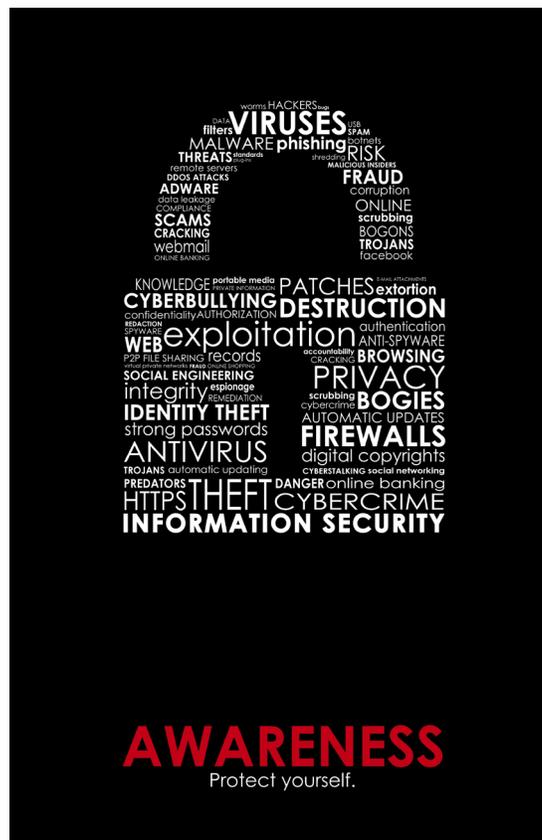
Avoid social media announcements about your travel plans. It's tempting to share your upcoming vacation plans with family and friends, but consider how this might make you an easy target for local or online thieves. While traveling, avoid using social media to "check in" to airports and consider posting those beautiful photos after you return home.

Traveling soon? If you're traveling with a laptop or mobile device, remove or encrypt confidential information. Consider using a laptop or device designated for travel with no personal information, especially when traveling out of the country.

Connecting while away from home? If only public Wi-Fi is available, restrict your activity to simple searches (no banking!) and use only SSL protected websites (HTTPS). Better protection can come from using a VPN (virtual private network) which provides an encrypted tunnel between you and the sites you visit.

Limit personal information stored on devices. Use a tool like Identity Finder to locate your personally identifiable information (e.g., SSN, credit card numbers, or bank accounts) on your computer, then secure or remove that information.

Physically protect yourself and your devices. Use a laptop lock, avoid carrying identification cards, shred sensitive paperwork before you recycle it, and watch out for "shoulder surfers" at the ATM.



Share these tips on social media:

Laptop phone home! Install a device finder on your mobile device in case it's lost or stolen.

Sketchy phishing offers can arrive by email, phone, snail mail, or in person. Be vigilant about social engineering hacks!

Traveling soon? Remove or encrypt personal info on your laptop or mobile device, especially when abroad.

Physically protect yourself — Use a laptop lock, minimize cards in your wallet, shred sensitive papers, and be wary at ATMs.

For more information, contact your local IT support.