



Wealth  
Management

# Personal cybersecurity

## The top five things you can do today to help protect yourself online

### 1. Use strong passwords and authentication

- Use strong and unique passwords that can't be guessed based on public information about you.
- Don't reuse passwords across accounts and change them periodically.
- Use multi-factor authentication if available (especially with financial accounts).

### 2. Protect your devices

- Keep your device software up-to-date and consider using a reputable anti-virus program.
- Know the difference between legitimate update notifications and scams that use pop-ups to trick you.
- Learn about tech support scams here at <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-spot-avoid-and-report-tech-support-scams#Spotting>.

### 3. Be careful with Wi-Fi

- Secure your home Wi-Fi network by changing your default passwords, encrypting it and keeping software up-to-date.
- Learn how to secure home Wi-Fi, visit <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-secure-your-home-wi-fi-network>.
- Be careful when connecting to a public Wi-Fi network and avoid sensitive transactions such as purchases or logging on to financial accounts when on a public network.

### 4. Back up your data

- In case something goes wrong or you are hacked, make sure to have your data backed up.
- Learn about backing up your phone at <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-protect-your-phone-hackers#Backup>.
- Learn about backing up your computer by visiting <https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/how-remove-your-personal-information-you-get-rid-your-computer#backup>.

### 5. Be skeptical and ask for help when you encounter a red flag

- Scrutinize email addresses and websites carefully to avoid imposters.
- Beware of unsolicited calls or emails asking you to verify a one-time-passcode.
- Don't click links or open attachments in unsolicited emails or text messages.
- Be very suspicious of any pressure or demand to send funds immediately, especially using gift cards, cryptocurrency and money transfers.
- Don't be afraid to hang up or disengage if something doesn't feel right. Talk to a professional such as your financial advisor, the Federal Trade Commission or law enforcement.

For more information on how to protect yourself online, visit RBC Wealth Management's cybersecurity center [Cybersecurity: How to protect yourself online at https://www.rbcwealthmanagement.com/en-us/cybersecurity/how-to-protect-yourself-online?](https://www.rbcwealthmanagement.com/en-us/cybersecurity/how-to-protect-yourself-online?)

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