Fidelity

CYBER SAYS...

Cyber and fraud best practices for protecting yourself

Phishing drives highest security breaches[1] at 16% with an average cost of $4.8 million in 2024

16%

$4.8 million

Avoid reusing passwords

There are now more than **16 billion stolen account credentials** available to cybercrime actors.[2]

Make yourself a difficult target for cyber criminals by not reusing passwords and avoiding weak, commonly used passwords, e.g., 123456.

Monitor accounts and credit

Freeze your credit to prevent credit fraud:

- Equifax: https://www.equifax.com
- Experian: https://www.experian.com
- TransUnion: https://www.transunion.com

Monitor your accounts and credit score for suspicious activity; consider purchasing identify theft protection

Protect your accounts and identity

1. Create unique login identities and passwords (avoid using your email address)
2. Enable two-factor authentication for Fidelity and other financial, email, phone and social media accounts
3. Don't click on untrusted links or attachments in email or text
4. Provide current email address and phone number so you can be contacted in real time in case of fraud
5. Sign up for voice biometrics when offered
6. Consider using a password vault/manager for lower risk accounts

Safeguard your data, mail and online shopping

Backup your data to a secure cloud location

Consider using **trusted payment systems** and never use debit cards for online purchases

Protect your mail – sign up for USPS's free Informed Delivery Service

Secure your devices

- Use a personal firewall and anti-virus software on your personal devices
- Use trusted devices for conducting sensitive transactions
- Avoid conducting sensitive transactions over public Wi-Fi
- Secure your mobile services, including cellphone and mobile provider account
- Update/patch your Internet of Things (IoT) devices - include cameras & smart home devices

1. 60+ Phishing statistics in 2025: Costs, Targets, & Risks Revealed, Techopedia Oct 9 2025
2. 16 billion passwords exposed in record-breaking data breach: What does that mean for you? Cybernews. June 30 2025

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