

4 SAFETY MEASURES FOR BETTER TECH PRIVACY



Advancements in technology have exploded our access to information, made our lives easier with tools like online banking and shopping, entertain us and help us keep in touch with friends and family.

But along with these benefits are risks. We store and exchange personal information on our devices, which leaves us vulnerable to identity thieves and spammers. The following tips will help you protect your home computer, so you can protect your privacy and your family.

Keep anti-virus software updated

Anti-virus software helps protect your computer from viruses that slow down or crash your computer, destroy your data, or allow spammers to send email through your account. However, it must be kept updated. As quickly as one virus is identified, new ones have been created. Most anti-virus software includes a feature to download updates automatically when you're online. You'll want to make sure the settings for the software you choose checks your system on a regular basis, especially if you are a heavy internet or email user. Some programs do this in the background while your computer is on.

Don't forget anti-malware software

If you see a sudden flurry of pop-up ads, get redirected to a website you didn't choose, or you receive a suspicious message that says your computer is infected and you must call the number in the message to fix it, you likely have malware, a.k.a. spyware. Malware is software installed without your consent or knowledge. This dangerous software can monitor your online activities and collect personal information while you surf the web.

Spyware is often contained in many "free" programs downloaded from the internet. Download software only from sites you know and trust. If you're unsure, do a Google search of the name of the software and "is it safe" and read other user comments.

Manage your system and browser

Hackers are constantly trying to find new ways into your system. It's recommended you set your internet security settings to, at least, medium. To adjust these settings, check the "Tools" or "Options" menus for how to do this. Update your system and browser regularly, taking advantage of automatic updates when available. Windows Update is a service offered by Microsoft. On Apple systems, patching can be run automatically to update its operating system.

Secure your wireless network

Make sure your home wireless network is protected. A common mistake is leaving the password as the factory default. A quick Google search, and anyone can find the default password for your wireless router. Follow the instructions the router came with to reset the password, or find the manual on the internet and reset the router with a new, strong password. 🚧

Want More Tips and Great Articles?

If you'd like even more safety measures for tech privacy, ways to keep your data safe on social media, and other similar articles, find them all on Arvig's blog.

Wait, what is a blog? Weblogs, or blogs, are written pieces of content on the internet that can be composed like a diary or journal, as a way to share knowledge and views, and for connecting with people.

Arvig publishes a blog weekly on arvig.net/blog and also shares them on [Facebook.com/ArvigHQ](https://www.facebook.com/ArvigHQ).

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GIVE THANKS!

Thanksgiving Holiday Hours

Our local service centers will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 and 27, 2020, for Thanksgiving.

Technical Support will be available at 877.290.0560 and via online chat at arvig.net.

Visit arvig.com/locations for a full list of our contact information and hours.

6 Ways to OPTIMIZE YOUR INTERNET at Home

If you're working or studying at home, consider the impact on your internet network. You've likely introduced a host of new devices—a work or school laptop, a company smartphone, a tablet and more.

THE FIRST 3 TIPS to improve your signal strength, get the best available speeds and optimize your home network:



1 ROUTER PLACEMENT

This point might seem obvious, but remember to show your router some love. Find a central hub for your router, somewhere free from signal-stealing obstructions including microwaves, walls, windows and cordless phones.



2 USE ETHERNET

Game consoles, desktop computers and streaming boxes will generally enjoy more consistent speeds and less signal interference with a wired connection. Go with a wired connection on devices where an Ethernet cable is within reach.



3 SHARE THE SIGNAL

Consider switching off or temporarily disconnecting certain devices when you're not using them. Is someone streaming a movie in the living room? Maybe you could switch your video call to audio-only. Every little bit helps.



STAY TUNED for the finale next month, or view the entire infographic at arvig.net/connected.



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