Computer Safety: Passwords and Scams

Simple habits that protect you

Strong passwords

Use a long password or a passphrase of several random words. Make each account's password different.

Password manager

A password manager remembers your passwords so you only need to remember one strong one.

Two-step sign-in

Turn on two-factor sign-in where it is offered. It asks for a code as well as your password.

Spot scams

Be careful with messages that rush you, ask for passwords or money, or have strange links. When unsure, go to the real site yourself.

Updates

Install updates for your system and apps. They fix security problems.

Back up and ask

Back up your files. If something feels wrong, stop and ask a trusted adult or the company directly.

Tip: No real company asks for your password by email or text.

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