

Top Tips for Securing Your Accounts

Like keeping our doors locked to keep our homes safe from burglars, keeping our online accounts secure is vital to help protect ourselves from cyber criminals - and passwords are the key. Here are some tips to help you keep your accounts safe online.



1. Choose strong passwords

The stronger your password is, the more difficult it is to hack your account.

Create passwords that are at least **15 characters long** and include a combination of upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols if allowed.

A good way to do this is to create a **passphrase** - use a sentence that includes unusual words, or words from different languages.

In addition, always use **unique** passwords for all your online accounts.

2. Use a password manager

A password manager is a **convenient** way to take care of your passwords.

Several very good password managers are **free and easy** to use. It will create strong passwords for you and keep them secure.

If you'd prefer not to use a password manager, write your passwords into a notebook and keep it in a **secure place** away from your computer.



3. Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

Multi-factor authentication (like 2FA) provides an **extra layer of security** to help protect your accounts.

It is an electronic authentication method where you need to present two or more pieces of evidence (factors) to **confirm your identity** and access your account, for example a password and a code that is sent to your mobile phone. Your account cannot be accessed without entering this code.

4. Do all of the above!

For extra security, use a password manager that will create strong passwords for you and enable multi-factor authentication when available for your **best chance** to keep your accounts secure.

