



Top tips for **cyber security**

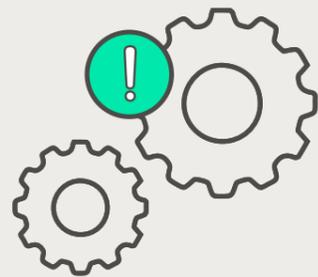
Online security is becoming more important than ever. While there's no bulletproof way to prevent a cyber attack, here are some easy tips to help you keep your personal information safe and secure.

Back up your data



Using an external hard drive or a cloud-based service, copy your data to another separate location so you can retrieve it if necessary.

Keep your operating system up to date



Updates often fix vulnerabilities that attackers can find and use to access your system. It's an effective way to help keep them out.

Install antivirus software



Free online antivirus software can be fake. Purchase antivirus software from a reputable company and run it regularly.

Choose unique passwords



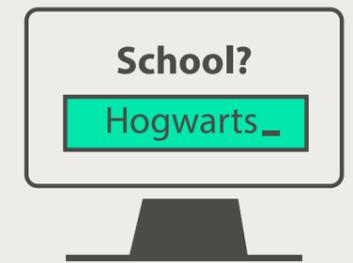
Create unique passwords for each account – that way if an attacker gets hold of one of your passwords, they can't get access to all of your other accounts.

Set up two-factor authentication (2FA)



Choose to get a code sent to another device like your phone when logging in online – it helps stop hackers getting into your accounts.

Use creative recovery answers



Common security answers like your pets name or your school can be easy for an attacker to find out. Choose novel answers that aren't necessarily real.

Be cautious of free WiFi networks



Be careful using free Wifi and hot spots - they are untrusted networks so others could see what you are doing.

Be smart with social media



What you post on social media can give cyber criminals information that they can use against you. Set your privacy so only friends and family can see your details.

Don't give out personal info



Legitimate-looking emails are very clever at trying to trick us into giving away personal or financial information. Stop and check if you know who the email is from.

Check bank statements regularly



Keeping an eye on your bank statements could be the first tip-off that someone has accessed your accounts. Ring your bank immediately if you see something suspicious.

Get a regular credit check



An annual credit check will alert you if someone else is using your details to get loans or credit.

To report a cyber security problem, visit www.cert.govt.nz