

[www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)

Whoever you are, whatever you do...  
**YOU** could be a victim of online crime.



### Don't be a victim: simple steps to Get Safe Online

- **PUT A PIN ON IT:** Whether it's a phone, website or a social media account, your first line of defence is a PIN or password. Never use the same password, make sure it is hard to guess (don't use your pet's name, your birthday or your favourite football team) and never share your passwords with anyone. Cyber Streetwise released new [Government guidance on making strong passwords](#) using three words or more last week.
- **BE SOFTWARE SAVVY:** Protect all your devices with anti-virus software and make sure you regularly install updates to *any* programs or apps, as they often include improved security settings.
- **KEEP IT PRIVATE:** Check the privacy settings on all of your social media accounts so that only the people you want to share your information with can see it.
- **SECURE THE WIFI:** Make sure your home WiFi is protected with a strong password that only you and your family know. When out and about never use a hotspot that may be unsecured, especially when what you're doing is personal or private.
- **LOOK FOR THE PADLOCK:** When shopping or banking online always check there is a padlock symbol in the web browser window when you have logged in or registered, and that the web address begins with 'https://'. The 's' stands for 'secure'.
- **BID SMARTLY:** When using an auction site, make sure you never transfer any money directly to a bank account or hand over any personal details. If you're thinking of making a big purchase like a car, or finding somewhere to live, always make sure it exists and is genuine.
- **LOG-OUT/LOG-OFF:** Always make sure you log out of your accounts when you've finished with them and log off a computer when you've finished using it.
- **POST IN HASTE, REPENT AT LEISURE:** What goes online stays online so never say anything that could hurt, anger or endanger yourself or someone else.
- **MANAGE YOUR MESSAGES:** Never open or forward a suspicious looking email, or respond to a social media message from someone you don't know.

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