

HCC Bits & Bytes

HoodCanal
COMMUNICATIONS



Protect Your Online Identity

Have you recently noticed more news coverage of major online data breaches perpetrated against businesses of all sizes? Even social media is not immune to data loss or unwanted personal data sharing. It makes you stop and wonder what can be done to protect your personal information and minimize your risk. Below are some ideas on how you can better protect yourself. You can also visit cyberwise.org for additional tips and information.

The best offense is a good defense. Truer words were never spoken! Digital security is a non-negotiable necessity. Make sure your devices (including cell phones, PC's, and tablets) are protected with antispyware, antivirus, anti-phishing and firewall software protection.

Caution! Caution! Caution! Beware of what you share online, both on social media and other types of websites. It's okay to share some things, but that doesn't mean you should share everything! This includes easy-to-access personal answers to security questions (like what city you were born in).

Sharing is NOT caring. *123456* and *Password* are the most common passwords used today as are *StarWars* and *iloveyou*. Make sure your passwords are complex, and contain a combination of letters, numbers and symbols. Don't leave the password written down in some easily accessible place such as under your keyboard! And don't give your passwords to anyone.

Can this thing be hacked? Mobile devices such as cell phones and tablets can be also be hacked. Be cautious about what apps you install. Avoid apps that have poor user ratings or that

come from unknown locations or sources. Your best bet is to only download apps from Google Play or the iTunes store and only after you've read the reviews.

Is public WiFi the Wild West? Actually, it is generally okay to use public WiFi. However, never shop online, log into credit accounts, or do any banking transactions while on a public connection. If you wouldn't want a stranger to see it, don't access it while on public WiFi!

Be cyberwise and memorize. Memorize important identification like your Social Security number and driver's license number. The fewer pieces of physical information you carry on your person the better.

Monitor to catch a thief. Monitor your credit report regularly. If you keep tabs on your credit standings it is much easier to spot an irregularity right away which helps prevent all the damage control you would have to do later if your identity is stolen.

By following these tips, you will be on your way to safeguarding your identity and data. As always, if you have any questions about any of the tips in this article or any other security-related questions, feel free to contact HCC's friendly and knowledgeable staff!

Etc...

Congrats Dalton & Lorenzo

Fun in the Forest

\$55 Gig Fiber

360.898.2481 • www.hcc.net

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

P.O. Box 249
Union, WA | 98592 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

