

TECH TIPS

Password DOs & DON'Ts



We all know we should have a different password for each online account, but a good password is impossible to remember, right? Think again!

✓ Make use of a password manager. Password managers will create a difficult to crack password for you and will store it on your computer, so you don't have to remember it. Most browsers and operating systems (e.g. Google, Safari) will offer to create and save passwords for you.

✓ Think twice when you are taking a "fun" online "quiz" that ask you to enter something like the street you grew up on and the name of your favorite pet to find out what your "movie star" name would be. These "fun quizzes" are often found on social media sites and reveal your personal information to bad actors.

✓ Use a different password for each online account that you have (see Tip #1 on password managers).

✓ Consider taking a free online Internet Safety class from the National Digital Equity Center.

✗ Don't use numerical or alphabetical sequences. In fact, according to multiple cyber security experts, the most commonly cracked password is 123456 (I am not kidding here, folks).

✗ Don't use words that can be found in a dictionary of any language.

Cyber criminals use automated software which searches words found in dictionaries (e.g. ILoveBaseball).

✗ Don't use passwords that contain your date of birth, zip code, names of pets or other personal information.

✗ Please don't share your password with others. Passwords should always remain private.