



CYBERSECURITY MADE CLEAR

While the Internet can make your life easier, it can also expose you to cybersecurity threats like scams and identity theft. Here's what you need to know before you go online.

PHARMING

A scheme that sends you to fake websites where hackers secretly collect personal information and passwords.

PHISHING

Fake e-mails that appear to come from a legitimate source looking to “verify” personal or financial information.

TROJANS

Programs that look useful, but actually cause damage to your computer.

VIRUSES

Self-replicating programs that damage hard drives and affect the normal operation of your computer.

SPYWARE

Malicious code that secretly watches what you do on your computer and sends the information over the Internet.



Things You Can Do To Protect Yourself & Your Computer

1. Install firewall, anti-spyware, and antivirus software, and update them often.
2. Don't open e-mails from someone you don't know, download software from a source you don't trust, or enter “free” contests from companies you don't recognize.
3. Guard your passwords – don't share them over e-mail or instant message, and change them often.
4. Type in the website address instead of clicking on a link.
5. Look for “https” or a picture of a lock in your browser window before buying anything or opening an account on a website.