

LOCK IT WITH A STRONG PASSWORD

Every year the number of computers and data illegally accessed because of weak passwords grows. For convenience sake, most users choose passwords that are easy to remember. Unfortunately, the easier the password is, the easier it is for a hacker to guess it.

Your computer and data are only as safe as the password you use to access them. Passwords are the "keys" and ultimately the last layer of defense protecting your sensitive data from hackers, and should be treated like the keys to your car or the access codes to your bank/credit cards. Passwords authenticate that you are who you claim to be. If someone authenticates as you, they are then authorized to do anything you could do on your computer or account.

More information on creating a strong password, please visit the following website:
<http://security.arizona.edu/protectiontips>



NetID:	<input type="text" value="Wilbur"/>
Password:	<input type="text" value="Luv my wildcatz!"/>
	<input type="button" value="Login"/>

BE AWARE OR BEWARE

When sitting at your computer "surfing the net," sending electronic mail messages, and participating in online forums, it's easy to be lulled into thinking that your activities are private. Be aware that at any step along the way your online messages can be intercepted and your activities monitored — in the vast, untamed world of cyberspace.

Take time to educate yourself on the risks as well as the measures you should take to protect yourself online.

More information about protecting your privacy can be found at:
<http://security.arizona.edu/basics>

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT



INFORMATION SECURITY

Information Security Office
iso@arizona.edu
Phone (520) 621-UIISO (8476)
<http://security.arizona.edu>

 UA InfoSec



DID YOU KNOW

that a brand new computer purchased today has a likelihood of being infected or compromised within 1 to 5 minutes of connecting to a high speed network?

Most of us are good about locking the doors to our homes and our cars, but we forget to lock the door to something that is too easily stolen in the cyber world – our personal information, financial information, even our identity.

It's important to understand how intruders break into your computer, and even more important to learn how to prevent these intrusions. This brochure contains many helpful tips and resources for helping you to secure your information here at UA and at home.



Stop! Thief!

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal identifying information, like your name and Social Security number or credit card number, etc., without your permission to commit fraud or other crimes. The FTC estimates that as many as 9 million Americans have their identities stolen each year. Identity theft is serious and can happen to anyone. While you can't entirely control whether you will become a victim, there are steps you can take to minimize your risk.

More information about identity theft and how to protect your identity can be found at:
<http://security.arizona.edu/idtheft>

IS SOMEONE WATCHING YOU?

Spyware is software installed on a PC to intercept or take partial control over the user's interaction with the computer, *WITHOUT* the user's informed consent. While the term *spyware* suggests software that secretly monitors the user's behavior, the functions of spyware extend well beyond simple monitoring. Spyware programs can collect personal information, as well as interfere with installing additional software, redirecting Web browser activity, accessing websites blindly that will cause more harmful viruses and much more. Spyware can even change computer settings, resulting in slow connection speeds, different home pages, and loss of Internet access or programs.



More information about spyware can be found at:

<http://security.arizona.edu/spyware>

The following free tools are useful for finding and eliminating spyware:

Spybot Search and Destroy –

<http://www.safer->

[networking.org/en/download/index.html](http://www.safer-networking.org/en/download/index.html)

Ad-aware (free for home personal use only)

www.lavasoftusa.com/

ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE: A FLU SHOT FOR YOUR COMPUTER!

(and it doesn't hurt)

Computer viruses are software programs deliberately designed to interfere with the "health" of your computer. Just as human viruses range in severity from the 24-hour flu to the Ebola virus, computer viruses range from the mildly annoying to the downright destructive, and come in new and different forms. The good news is that with an ounce of prevention and a little knowledge, you are less likely to fall victim to viruses and you can diminish their impact.

Tips for keeping your computer virus-free:

- Install antivirus software, and keep it running and up to date.
- Keep your operating system up to date.
- Use care when opening e-mail attachments, even if they "appear" to come from someone you know or trust (the most common way to spread viruses).

More information about protection measures you should use to keep your computer virus-free can be found at:

<http://security.arizona.edu/viruses>

