Get cyber safe this summer

Te Whatu Ora

Health New Zealand

Summer holidays are a time to unwind and recharge. Cyber criminals don't take summer holidays so, as you relax, don't let your guard down.



Secure your devices

Any device connected to the internet comes with risk, so take control of what information a scammer could access and use against you.

Review the device settings and check they're not sharing data with anyone you don't agree to share with.

Don't Allow

Cover cameras, where possible, when not in use.

Enable "Allow While Using App" option when turning on the location setting.

Stop. Think. Act.

Time to do some online shopping

It's easy to be tricked by cyber criminals when they pretend to be your friend or offer you a good deal, especially over the holiday season.

Scammers use words to make you feel worried or rushed into doing something so pause if an email, text, or message makes you feel uncomfortable.



A prize for a competition you didn't enter.



Pop-ups asking you to install updates or download something you didn't ask for.



Your payment did not go through! please pay again via: http://:TNZ.bit.ly to receive your goods

Too good to be true offers.

A threat of action if you

don't respond.



Setting up a smart device

When you're shopping around, think about the security and privacy features of your device.

Set up a long and strong password/PIN on the device along with face id/biometrics.

Smart devices rely on your home WiFi so make sure your WiFI router has WPA2 encryption enabled.

Set your device software to install updates automatically.

If you're kindly regifting an old device, do a factory reset to wipe all your personal information (like photos) from it.



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Online streaming can be risky

Pirating content or unlicensed content streaming are extremely risky activities which can leave you with an infected device from malware or a target for

Statistically, sites providing pirated and unlicensed content such as movies and music are known to be highly unsecure and can leave you with an infected device from malware or a target for scammers.



Manage your social media posts safely

Adjust your privacy settings to make sure you're only sharing posts with people you know. Scroll through your friends and unfriend anyone you don't know.





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Every minute you spend making your information and devices more secure makes it harder for hackers and safer for you to chat, browse, shop, or play online.

Give your device and apps some TLC (tender loving care)

Delete all the apps you never use, freeing up space on your device and resulting in less things to keep updated. Win-win!

Protect all your online accounts with a long and strong password.

Turn on multi-factor authentication (MFA) wherever it's available (it's the extra bit of information you provide to prove it's YOU!)







Pack up your bags

Over the holidays store your work devices and ID card somewhere safe.

If there's a chance you might forget your work login, add it to your password manager or write it down and store that safely (not with your device).



Free WiFi may put your privacy and security at risk

When you're away from home, using public WiFi is handy but you risk exposing your personal information to cyber crooks.



Use your own data and create a mobile hotspot where you can, especially for buying and banking.



Use your own data and personal hotspot for work and other sensitive activities such as banking.



Format/reset a device before disposing or giving away

Lucky enough to get a new device? If you're kindly regifting your old one, do a factory reset to wipe all your personal information (like photos) from it.



You can't go wrong with the basics



Use a long and strong password with pin/face ID.





Use technology with "encryption".