

Tips to Protect YOUR Privacy in the Digital Age

- Learn What Exists on the Internet About You
 1. Google “your name” and examine the results.
 2. Many public (Fed/State/local) documents about you can be searched and info provided.
 3. My “life history” (800+ search results!): long ago addresses, employers, work assignments, volunteer activities, bridge game results, and MORE!
- Know Your Web-based Financial Information
 1. Get your annual free credit report via www.annualcreditreport.com
 2. Regularly check your online bank and credit card account transactions/balances.
 3. Consider using only one credit card for online purchases.
 4. Change your financial account passwords periodically.
- Be Aware of Security Issues of “The Cloud”
 1. Your emails are stored on servers at Google/Gmail, Yahoo, etc.
 2. DO NOT USE ONE PASSWORD FOR ALL WEBSITES/ACCOUNTS.
 3. Use a simple encryption system for your multiple usernames and passwords (un:pw); one sample: write/store the password so every letter/number is one “higher” than the real character.
 4. Use (FREE) www.delicious.com for portable online bookmarks.
 - Store the encrypted un:pw information for websites.
 - Create “sortable tags” for related websites, eg restaurants.
 5. Use (FREE) www.dropbox.com for portable online files.
 6. Most social media sites (Facebook, Twitter) save/store personal info.
- Consider the “Internet of Things” Security Issues
 1. Personal location apps, eg Waze, show your/police whereabouts.
 2. Health monitoring devices may report/store personal data.
- “The Right to Be Forgotten”
 1. Request removal/deletion of personal info on the Internet.
 2. Mostly a European Union movement.
 3. Very difficult to implement by tech companies.