

TechTip Postcard

Insider Tips and Secrets to Get The MOST Out of Your Computer

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9 Steps To Take Now To Be Certain Your Finances Are Protected Online

Seems like we've been inundated over the past 6 months with rampant cybertheft. Target, Nieman Marcus, Yahoo and even mysterious \$9.84 credit-card charges. Unfortunately, in the world we live in, this is most likely the norm going forward and not just a blip on the radar.

So, how can you stay protected online? While there is no way to absolutely, positively, 100% stay safe online, by taking these 9 steps, you will be as safe as possible.

- 1. Only Shop On Secure Websites.** Before you type your credit card into a website, ensure it is secure. Look for "https://" in the address bar of your web browser when you are checking out.
- 2. Avoid Financial Transactions Over Public Wifi.** You can't guarantee that free or shared WiFi access is secure. Ok to connect for browsing the web, but avoid financial transactions on these con-
- 3. Use A Secure Network For Financial Transactions.** Protect your computer with a firewall, anti-virus and anti-spyware software.
- 4. Setup Banking Alerts For Unusual Or Large Transactions.** Ask your bank to notify you of any suspicious or large transactions.
- 5. Use Credit Cards Instead Of Debit Cards.** Most credit cards offer better fraud protection, plus if money is stolen from a debit card, then it has already left your bank account.
- 6. Pick Complex Passwords.** Use phrase acronyms and keyboard combinations. Never use repeat passwords or words in the dictionary for your financial accounts.
- 7. Never Directly Answer Or Respond To An Email From Your Bank.** Criminals have become very adept at appearing that they are a financial institution when they are not. Never rely on links in emails to access your financial accounts.
- 8. Install Available Security Updates On Your Computer, SmartPhone and Tablets.** Many cyber-crimes target known security holes on your computing devices. Stay up to date to stay secure.
- 9. Check Your Bank Balances And Statements Regularly.** Good ol' fashioned visual checks on your balances and a scan of your transactions are the best practice to be sure that nothing has slipped through the

Free 10-Point Business Cyber Security Audit Gives You Peace Of Mind

At no cost or obligation, our highly trained team of IT pros will come to your office and conduct a comprehensive Cyber-Security Audit to uncover loopholes in your company's online

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through April 30th!





John Kistler, President

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Free 10-Point Business Cyber-Security Audit Gives You Peace Of Mind

**These are just a
FEW of the
things we'll look
at during this
Free Audit.**

After the audit is done, we'll prepare a customized "Report Of Findings" that will reveal specific vulnerabilities and provide a Prioritized Action Plan for getting these security problems addressed fast.

At no cost or obligation, our highly trained team of IT pros will come to your office and conduct a comprehensive Cyber-Security Audit to uncover loopholes in your company's online security. During this audit, we'll review:

- How well your current "Unified Threat Management" system will truly protect you from hackers, cybercriminals, viruses, worms and even sabotage by rogue employees.
- Your current security patching strategy for known vulnerabilities. If you're not seeing weekly reports on this, you're probably not properly covered.
- Your mobile-device policy to ensure that your employees' mobile devices are properly secured. Mobile apps are another big way hackers gain access.
- Your written Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for employees that details what they can and cannot do with company-owned devices and Internet access.
- Your company's password policy. Most companies are severely lacking in a proper password policy, opening themselves up to cyber-disaster.

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