2015

**Mobile Security Tips to Help You Be Safe!**

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Going Mobile – Checklist to Make Security A Priority!

As a business owner, everyday you are faced with the possibility of data or identity theft. There are numerous actions you can implement to minimize the threat and protect you and your customers.

Watch the video for tips on keeping your mobile devices secure.

9 STEPS TO SECURE YOUR MOBILE DEVICES

☐ Create a PIN or passcode for your device
  o PIN/Passcode should be strong (just like your computer’s password), avoid using "1234" or "1111."
  For more information about specific devices:
    • Android - [http://www.androidcentral.com/password-protect-your-phone](http://www.androidcentral.com/password-protect-your-phone)

☐ Keep firmware and apps updated
  Keeping the operating system updated with the latest version will ensure high security.
  o Each device is different so check for details on how to update
  o Apps typically notify when a new installation or update is ready to be downloaded.
  o Make sure you check your device for updates and install them as soon as possible.

☐ Only download apps from App Store
  o iTunes app/Google Play - download apps only from iTunes and Google Play - anywhere else you are opening yourself up to viruses. Make sure you read comments, rating, etc. for recommendations
We shop, we bank, we learn, we work, we engage. We stay in touch from our mobile devices.


- Consider not letting the App Store, Facebook, Twitter know your location, if they have it they can suggest apps relevant to where you are at and when (for example an NFL app or even one for HHD).

- **Turn off “services” when not in use**
  - Services like WiFi, Bluetooth, Locations, Virtual Private Networks
  - Having these ‘services’ on opens you up for security breaches.
  - Location based as if you are being watched and every move tracked.
  - Check your mobile devices on how to quickly turn off and on – most likely will be located under Settings

- **Encrypt Data**
  - Available features on most mobile devices can help encrypt data.
  - Third-party apps from a reputable vendor can also encrypt data.

- **Back up Data**
  - Use the back-up features available on your mobile device
    - Blackberry - [http://us.blackberry.com/apps-software/personal/syncing.jsp#tab_tab_backup](http://us.blackberry.com/apps-software/personal/syncing.jsp#tab_tab_backup)

- **Be Selective**
  - You open yourself up for security breaches the more information you put on your device.
    - Store as little personal information as possible
  - It can be safer to use a browser and access a secure web site than use a dedicated app.
  - QR Codes - only click on reliable sources you trust. Sources you do not trust can take you somewhere you don’t want to go on the web.
  - Reconsider logging into Apps with Facebook or Google. Logging in through your social media tools may enable Apps to mine data about you and resell it.

- **Have a plan if device is lost/stolen**
  - Install an app that will find, lock or wipe your phone remotely –
    - Such as
      - Lookout - [https://www.lookout.com/](https://www.lookout.com/)
      - Lost Phone - [http://lostphone.org/](http://lostphone.org/)
If your device is lost/stolen:

- Immediately change all passwords for accounts accessed on the smart device, especially e-mail accounts.
- Report the loss to the police. Even if you think your device is just lost (not stolen), you should report it to the police so if the device is turned into them it can be returned to you.

"Take mobile security seriously! If you take these steps to ensure your safety and that of your customer – your chances of a security breach are less likely!"

RESOURCES

Secure Your Mobile Devices -


How to Encrypt Your Smartphone -


Security to Go – Three Tips to You’re your Mobile Data Safe -


Security Squad - Enhance your understanding of the importance of and steps needed to improve the safety of your small business electronic equipment and data. The Security Squad's Video Series will provide you with general equipment and data safety information. The Security Squad Supplemental Planning Workbook provides the action tools to help you develop and implement a security plan for your own business. Once completed, you will have a security plan document that can be shared with employees for buy-in and implementation.

- http://communityvitality.unl.edu/security-squad