10 WAYS TO PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL DATA

1

Don't click that link!

What to do: Don't click links in emails. Instead, type the URL you want directly into the browser.

Why: According to Microsoft, phishing is still the number one favorite method of cyber-attacks.

2

Use two-factor authentication

What to do: Use a second factor for logging into accounts.

Why: If you have a robust two or multi-factor in place, you are much less likely to lose personal data due to phishing.

3

Delete recorded conversations

What to do: Regularly delete any recorded conversations used by your personal assistant.

Why: There have been cases where Alexa revealed personal data to unknown persons without consent.

4

Keep it clean – delete old files

What to do: Make sure you keep data replication to a minimum. Delete old files you don't use.

Why: There can never be 100% security, but reducing the places that can be compromised helps lessen your risk.

5

Be less social

What to do: Minimize the amount of personal data you have on social media platforms.

Why: Information like your mother's maiden name is sometimes used to recover account logins.

6

Don't sync for sync's sake

What to do: Disable automatic file and media sharing whenever possible.

Why: A lot of devices set up cloud syncing when you first configure the device. Check if you really want to store these data in the cloud.

7

Keep off the beaten track

What to do: Disable location tracking on each app.

Why: A recent study of almost 1 million Android phones demonstrated that apps regularly harvested tracking data.

8

Encrypt stored data

What to do: Encrypt any data you store on hard drives and use an email encryption tool if you share personal data.

Why: Encryption is a layer of protection that can prevent lost or stolen data from being exposed.

9

Patch your devices

What to do: Keep your computers and mobile devices patched and up to date.

Why: Software vulnerabilities allow malware to infect your device, which can steal data and login credentials.

10

Let sleeping Bluetooth lie

What to do: If you are not using Bluetooth, switch it off.

Why: Bluetooth vulnerabilities can allow data to be siphoned off your device.

Sources

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