

Maintain Your Cyber Security While Working from Home

The <u>Canadian Centre for Cyber Security</u> has noted that cyber threat actors often take advantage of high profile events to launch frauds and scams. The COVID-19 pandemic is an event that has brought heightened anxiety to the public - and ushered in new opportunities for fraudsters.

Here are some simple tips that will ensure you maintain good security protocols while working from home.

Protect Your Devices

- Install anti-virus and anti-spyware software on all your connected devices and keep them up to date.
- Don't delay on software updates and patches automate the updates so they're installed regularly.
- Don't save work-related documents or data on your personal device (backup your personal files too).
- Create unique, strong passwords.
- Only install apps from official or trusted sources.

Spot Fraudulent Activity

Be skeptical. Fraudulent texts and emails can look like they come from a real and credible organization. Banks and government agencies **never** send emails, texts, or calls to ask for personal information or account details, and the Canada Revenue Agency will **not** advise you of your benefits by text or email if you have not applied for emergency government benefits.

Secure Your Home WiFi

Scammers are taking advantage of the fact that many people are now working from home. Did you change the default password for your router when you first installed it? If not, your home network is vulnerable. Take a few minutes to change your WiFi router password to something strong and hard to guess. Be sure to automate the installation of any updates and patches to protect against threats.

Additional Resources

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre's <u>list of reported scams</u> exploiting COVID-19. The Canadian Bankers Association's <u>Cyber Security Toolkit</u> - How to Spot Common Scams. The Canadian Centre for Cyber Security's <u>Tips on How to Stay Cyber Heathy</u> During COVID-19.

