Beware of Identity Theft Online

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Around the world, people are dealing with the repercussions of identity theft. More often than not, the publicâ€™s increased trust in conducting transactions online has prompted important information to be accessible through the Internet. And if only to ensure that you still get the convenience and ease that the Internet affords, you have to make sure you take the necessary precautions to protect yourself against malicious cyber-attacks.

Identity theft is the act of stealing your identity so that information such as passwords, bank details, social security numbers or anything similar can be used by another. As it is, there are existing privacy protection measures that follow the simple guidelines detailed below:

Dispose of documents that provide pertinent information and identification such as bank slips: Personal documents like bank deposit receipts, credit card statements or any old documents bearing important information should be properly disposed off. Shred papers as thieves can ransack through your trash and protect yourself when online by making sure that you are protected from malicious spyware.

When online, ensure that you only give information to secure and credible sites: Protect your privacy by keeping it safe, both offline and online. Give only important details if you are absolutely certain that you are on a trusted website. Itâ€™s as simple as checking the browser to see if it bears a small â€˜lockâ€™ icon or â€˜httpsâ€™ on the address bar. These indicate that your page is secure and data is n encrypted. Without it, it is highly likely that hackers can hack into your system or the website to steal your private information.

BE WARY OF PHISHING SCAMS: Phishing is a technique that is prevalent online and is usually the cause of online identity theftâ€”using email or online chat services as its platform. In these cases, you are informed that you have to respond to a set of questions or click on a link that will require you to input important information about yourself.

DONâ€™T FALL FOR TELEPHONE SCAMS: In the same way that you should be vigilant about disclosing information about yourself online, you should also be careful about giving information on the phone. Double check phone calls if they inform you that they represent the bank, credit card company, a charity or any other similar institution.

SIGN UP FOR SECURE ANTIVIRUS PROTECTION: Install an antivirus program that is dynamic enough to keep up with the vastly growing and changing viruses on the Internet. Be sure to run one anti-virus program and at least one anti-spyware program.

Get your Credit Report Checked: Get your fee credit report online and ensure the accuracy and security of your financialhistory. Verify that the information is correct and check for suspicious activity, particularly mysterious new accounts opened.

Follow these steps and you will minimize your exposure to identity theft. Be safe, and spread the word.

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Enroll with MyID and get a identity theft protection online in real time. MyID sends you a financial fraud alerts and helps you to protect your a social network privacy. Visit Myid.com and protect your privacy on the internet.

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identity theft protection, social network protection, fraud alerts, online reputation management

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