

PRACTICE THESE FOUR ESSENTIALS TO STAY SAFER ONLINE



1

UPDATE SOFTWARE



Updating software and devices is the easiest way to stay protected from security threats. Perform updates as soon as they become available or set automatic updates.

2

USE STRONG PASSWORDS



All passwords should be:



LONG:

At least 16 characters



RANDOM:

Use a random string of mixed-case letters, numbers and symbols, like:
Yuc8\$RikA34%ZoPPao98t



UNIQUE:

Never reuse passwords

Keep your passwords safe by using
a **PASSWORD MANAGER!**

3

TURN ON MULTIFACTOR AUTHENTICATION



Multifactor authentication provides an extra layer of security for your accounts. Choose the most secure MFA method available. A physical security key provides the best protection and is easy to use.

4

RECOGNIZE AND REPORT PHISHING SCAMS



Keep an eye out for phishing and other scam attempts in your emails, texts, direct messages or phone calls. Always verify the sender before clicking links or downloading attachments. If you spot a scam, report it!

BUILDING A

CYBER STRONG AMERICA



CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

OCTOBER 2025

cisa.gov/cybersecurity-awareness-month