



TIPS FOR Safe Holiday Shopping



Online



1. Keep a Clean Machine: Smartphones or other devices you use for shopping should have up-to-date software.



2. When in Doubt, Throw it Out: If an e-mail looks suspicious, it's best to delete it or mark it as junk.



4. Get Savvy about WiFi Hotspots: Don't share personal or financial information over an unsecured WiFi network (one that doesn't require a password for access).

SHTTP



HTTPS

5. Make Sure the Site is Legitimate: This includes a closed padlock on your web browser or a URL address that begins with shttp or https.

6. Protect your Personal Information: Make sure the information requested is only that needed to complete the transaction. Check the website's privacy policy to understand how your information will be used.



7. Use Safe Payment Options: Credit cards are generally the safest option.

8. Keep a Paper Trail: Save records of your online transactions. Read your credit card statements as soon as you get them and, if there is a discrepancy, report it immediately.

Sources:

National Cyber Security Alliance; USA.gov

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