



GUARD-ALERT GAZETTE

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Top 7 Tips to prevent Cybercrime

Cybercrime is an offence that is committed using a computer network or hardware device. As the world becomes more hi-tech and internet focused, consumers are now tending to do many tasks online such as social media, banking, doing holiday bookings and researching on many facets of life. Generally, computer users tend to feel secure while doing online transactions due to the usage of log in details and passwords. Sadly, this feeling of security is not justified all the time as individuals and companies have been conned before in a variety of ways. Below, are a few hints and tips on how cybercrime can be prevented.

1. Make it a habit to change passwords and log in details often especially for highly sensitive usage areas. This cuts down on chances of being hit by cybercrime

2. Ensure that all firewall settings are activated. In addition make sure that anti-virus software is installed on your computers to prevent virus, malware and Trojan horses attacks

3. Be careful what you post online- for instance do not post your holiday plans on face book as this can be an easy source of information for would be thieves

4. Avoid conducting financial or sensitive online

transactions using public wifi hotspots as these can easily be hacked into

5. Encrypt your most sensitive data and back up into a secure place, preferably not on the same computer.

Rather store such information on a separate storage device

6. Do not answer emails which ask for personal information online- in fact avoid giving personal information online, such as pin numbers, passwords and other personal details such as bank account numbers

7. Do not open attachment or links from emails from unknown email addresses. In addition be discerning



when opening attachments even from people on your mailing list as hackers can clone email addresses and send viruses or emails soliciting for money or login details and passwords from people on your mailing list.



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