

Secure Our World Animation: 4 Easy Ways to Stay Safe Online—Audio Description

“Four easy ways to stay safe online. Follow these tips to ensure your online information is safe from those wishing to steal it.”

“First, recognize and report phishing.”

A laptop opens to show an example of a phishing email. Different aspects of the email are highlighted, such as the incorrect sender address.

“Phishing scams are online messages designed to look like they’re from a trusted person or organization. We may open what we thought was a safe email or attachment only to find ourselves exposed to malware or a scammer looking for personal data. Such messages often use alarming language or make offers that are too good to be true. Report the phish and delete the message without clicking any links.”

“Next, use strong passwords that can’t be easily guessed.”

The email closes and a login screen opens on the laptop, while examples of strong passwords like “HorsPerpleHatRunBayconShoo” and “k8dfh8c@Pfv0gB2h” pop up.

“Make them at least 16 characters long, **random**, and unique for each account. A password manager is a convenient tool that helps you create strong passwords, and stores and fills them for you.”

A new webpage loads on the computer screen with a prompt to turn on Multifactor Authentication (MFA). Once toggled on, it shows that a code was sent to a phone number and asks for the six-digit code. A phone slides in from the side showing the text with the code.

“Third, turn on multifactor authentication, or MFA, on any site that offers it. With MFA, you add an extra layer of protection in addition to a password, like your fingerprint or a code texted to you. You are significantly less likely to get hacked when you use MFA!”

“Finally, update software promptly.”

A popup appears on the laptop announcing that software updates are available. After the update button is clicked, a prompt to toggle on automatic updates appears.

“Updates fix security risks and protect your data and finances. For convenience, turn on automatic updates.”

“Taking these steps helps secure our world.”

CISA’s Secure Our World logo flies onto the screen.

“Share this video and help a friend stay safe, too. For more, go to cisa.gov/SecureOurWorld.”