

Mastering our Digital; Recovering the Real World. Four Ways to Improve Cybersecurity

Despite bad bots, individuals, and governments compromising our security at all levels there are measures we can all take. Being better-informed consumers, alert to personal threats and conscientious in digital behavior is the best answer to cybercrime. Social media companies, the various media, and government give lots of lip service to doing a better job but it remains to be seen if they will do what it takes without lots of pressure from us...their customers and their electorate. Here are four steps to fighting cybercrime.

1. [Backup Your Data](#) – If all of your data, pictures, videos, music, financial records and other information is in one place, you could easily lose it all to malicious cybercrime. One simple way to do this is to buy an external hard drive and simply copy everything onto it and store it away. Do this on a regular basis.
2. [Have Good Up-To-Date Antivirus Software](#) – The best computer antivirus systems will update on a regular basis and keep constant vigilance on your system. You cannot afford to be without it.
3. [Enable and Use Two-Step Verification](#) – This is a simple way to vastly improve your security. The most common form of two-step verification is when you log into an account and enter your password, a text is sent to your cellphone which you have to enter to complete the process. Though slightly annoying, it can eliminate most hacking. Most every social media site and search engine has a way to set up two step verification. Follow the link above for more information.
4. [Never Use Public WiFi](#) – You might as well write down and broadcast every one of your passwords, personal information, and access to your accounts while sitting naked at a coffee shop if you are going to use a public WiFi. Just never, ever do it. While you're at it. [Never use hotel WiFi either.](#)

Mastering our digital lives means that we have to take control of the technology. Bots, adversaries, and enemies are betting we won't do it. My money is on us.