



Computer Security

Using your computer online for banking and shopping is safe if you take some simple precautions. Just as you protect your wallet by not leaving it lying around, a few simple precautions will also protect you online.

- 1) **Online quizzes** – we have all seen them on Facebook, "My first car was a Morris Minor, what was yours?", "My mother's maiden name was Smith. What was yours?", "What's your favourite colour?" These are all security questions designed to collect information. Once you have fallen for enough of them, they can reset your passwords and gain access to your account. Never reply to them. If you see them, stop others from responding to them.
- 2) **Virus Protection** - A virus is a software program, script, or macro that has been designed to infect, destroy, modify, or cause other problems with a computer or software program.
 - a. Use a reputable product to protect your computer.
 - b. Update weekly or, better still, daily. (New updates are typically issued on Wednesday evening/Thursday mornings.)
 - c. You get what you pay for (free products are generally not so good).
 - d. Watch out for fake antivirus products; they are, in fact, viruses themselves.
 - e. Burgess Computer Services Ltd can supply a product that has had zero infections since its release in 2015. It is also cheaper than all the big players, such as Norton, AVG, Avast, and McAfee. Contact us for details 01353 722217
- 3) **Protect against Spyware, Adware, and Malware** – These are programmes, often installed without your knowledge, that track your movements on the internet and send data about you back to the originator's website.
 - a. Again, use a reputable product to protect your computer against these attacks.
 - b. Update it regularly.
- 4) **Firewall** - A software utility and/or hardware device that limits outside network access to a computer.
 - a. Some broadband routers have a firewall built in. If so, make sure it is turned on.
 - b. If you do not use a router with this feature, then software packages are available instead.

Burgess Computer Services Ltd, your one stop shop for all your computer requirements. We are here for all your new and upgraded hardware, software, networking, system set-up, installation, configuration, cabling, support, systems management, Data cabling, CCTV Systems; help and troubleshooting requirements.



Burgess Computer Services Ltd

40 Mereside, Soham, Ely, Cambs, CB7 5XE
info@burgesscomputers.co.uk www.burgesscomputers.co.uk
Customer enquiries: 01353 722217 All other enquiries: 01353 721729

- 5) **Internet Security Suites** – All in one protection programmes that typically contain protection against viruses, adware, spyware, email spam and a firewall
 - a. Update them regularly.
 - b. Remember to renew your subscription; if your subscription expires, so does your protection.
 - c. If the product hasn't been updated very recently, then it is almost useless.
 - d. Check if it is running!
 - e. Burgess Computer Services Ltd can supply a product that has had zero infections since its release in 2015. It is also cheaper than all the big players, such as Norton, AVG, Avast, and McAfee. Contact us for details 01353 722217

- 6) **Phishing Emails** – These are emails that attempt to trick you into providing your personal bank details to a stranger. They will appear to be legitimate, and it is easy to fall for them, so be careful!
 - a. NO bank, building society, eBay, or online agent will ever ask you to confirm your security details via email, or ask you to click a link and enter your details. Such emails are always "phishing" for your bank details, and will take your money. NEVER RESPOND TO THEM - DELETE THEM!
 - b. Never click on links within emails. Even if a link looks correct, some phishing attempts create fake websites that strongly resemble the original one. If you log in to them, then the phisher gets your details.

- 7) **Wireless LAN**
 - a. ALWAYS turn on encryption; otherwise, someone could sit outside your house, access your computer, steal all your data, and use your internet connection.

- 8) **Passwords**
 - a. When choosing passwords, never use names (family members, friends, nicknames, maiden names, parents' names, pets, etc.), telephone numbers, car registrations, or football teams. The best passwords are random characters with numbers in them as well.

- 9) **Storing Passwords or Bank Details**
 - a. Do not store passwords or credit card details with sites. If they have an option to store your details, say NO.
 - b. Don't store this sort of personal info on your PC at ALL. If the data is not on your machine, then even if you are attacked, spyware cannot access it.

Burgess Computer Services Ltd, your one stop shop for all your computer requirements. We are here for all your new and upgraded hardware, software, networking, system set-up, installation, configuration, cabling, support, systems management, Data cabling, CCTV Systems; help and troubleshooting requirements.

Burgess Computer Services Limited

Registered in England & Wales No: **06942895** * Registered office: **40 Mereside, Soham, Ely, Cambs, CB7 5XE**



Burgess Computer Services Ltd

40 Mereside, Soham, Ely, Cambs, CB7 5XE
info@burgesscomputers.co.uk www.burgesscomputers.co.uk
Customer enquiries: 01353 722217 All other enquiries: 01353 721729

10) Using Credit Cards & Debit Cards

- a. If you use a credit card, you are better protected and can get your money back more easily than when using a debit card.
- b. Only use a debit card on well known sites such as budget airlines, cinemas, etc., as they sometimes offer a lower price when using debit cards.
- c. If an online site does not take credit cards, then it is probably a scam or fake.

11) Windows Updates

- a. Microsoft release security updates regularly. Ensure your computer is set to receive and install updates; otherwise, you may be vulnerable to attacks.

12) **Outdated Windows version**, don't use a Windows version that has reached the end of life. Microsoft will release security updates for the current version of Windows, allowing criminals to see what it fixes and then determine if they can exploit it on older versions of Windows. If they can, they will. Most crimes these days are cybercrimes.

13) Free Software

- a. Some online sites are offering to check your computer for you. **KEEP WELL CLEAR OF THEM!** They often actually contain adware and spyware to direct you to their site.
- b. Remember: **NOTHING IS REALLY FREE** on the internet. For example, free screen savers often have adware & spyware within them. **AVOID THEM!**

Burgess Computer Services Ltd, your one stop shop for all your computer requirements. We are here for all your new and upgraded hardware, software, networking, system set-up, installation, configuration, cabling, support, systems management, Data cabling, CCTV Systems; help and troubleshooting requirements.

Burgess Computer Services Limited

Registered in England & Wales No: **06942895** * Registered office: **40 Mereside, Soham, Ely, Cambs, CB7 5XE**