



# STOP | THINK | CONNECT™

## THE BASIC STEPS TO ONLINE SAFETY AND SECURITY

October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM).

Online safety is our shared responsibility, and it starts with STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™

**STOP:** make sure security measures are in place. **THINK:** about the consequences of your actions and behaviors online. **CONNECT:** and enjoy the internet.



FOLLOW THESE STOP. THINK. CONNECT.™ TIPS TO BETTER PROTECT YOURSELF ONLINE AND MAKE THE INTERNET MORE SECURE FOR EVERYONE.

92% of U.S. young adults think that keeping the internet safe and secure is a responsibility we all share – up 8 points from 84 percent in 2015.<sup>1</sup>



### LOCK DOWN YOUR LOGIN

Fortify your online accounts by enabling the strongest authentication tools available, such as biometrics, security keys or a unique one-time code through an app on your mobile device. Your usernames and passwords are not enough to protect key accounts like email, banking and social media.



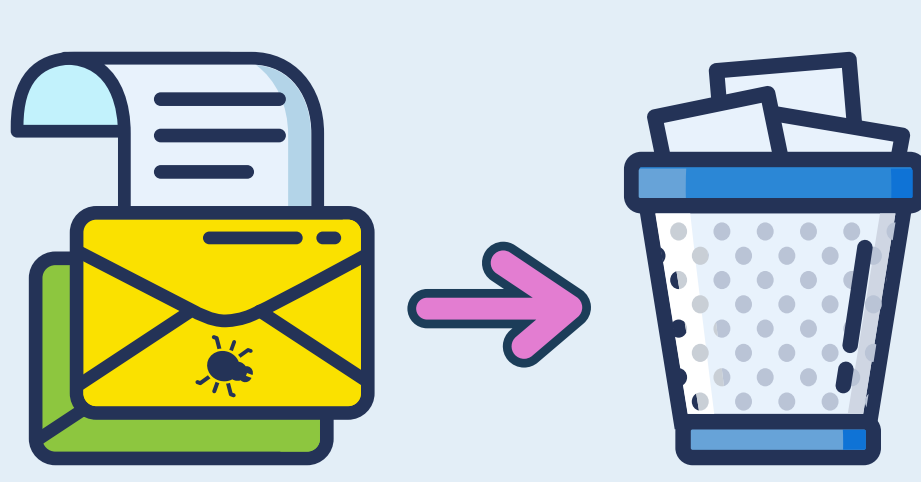
### KEEP A CLEAN MACHINE

Keep all software on internet-connected devices – including PCs, smartphones and tablets – up to date to reduce risk of infection from malware.



### PERSONAL INFORMATION IS LIKE MONEY. VALUE IT. PROTECT IT.

Information about you, such as purchase history or location, has value – just like money. Be thoughtful about who gets that information and how it's collected by apps and websites.



### WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT

Cybercriminals often use links to try to steal your personal information. Even if you know the source, if something looks suspicious, delete it.



### SHARE WITH CARE

Think before posting about yourself and others online. Consider what a post reveals, who might see it and how it could be perceived now and in the future.



### OWN YOUR ONLINE PRESENCE

Set the privacy and security settings on websites to your comfort level for information sharing. It's OK to limit how and with whom you share information.

## Be A Part of Something Big



#### GET INVOLVED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Use the #CyberAware hashtag in your posts, follow us on Facebook (/StaySafeOnline) and Twitter (@StaySafeOnline) and download our sample social media content to share before and during the month.



#### BECOME A NCSAM CHAMPION

Register yourself and/or your organization as a Champion to take action in support of NCSAM. It's easy and free to sign up at [staysafeonline.org/ncsam/champions](https://staysafeonline.org/ncsam/champions).



#### JOIN THE #ChatSTC TWITTER CHATS

Join the discussion every Thursday in October at 3 p.m. EDT/noon PDT.

GET STARTED TODAY ▶

[staysafeonline.org/ncsam](https://staysafeonline.org/ncsam)

## Resources That Work:

<https://stopthinkconnect.org>

<https://www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect>



<sup>1</sup>2016 Raytheon Survey

National Cyber Security Awareness Month is observed every October and led by the National Cyber Security Alliance and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.