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TipSheet

Cyber Security 101: Personal Devices





Cyber Security 101: Personal Devices

Personal electronic devices provide unparalleled ease and convenience. People don't often think of securing mobile devices as part of a comprehensive information security plan. Just the same, they use these devices to do things like send and receive sensitive work emails, read confidential reports, and communicate about sensitive issues. So what happens if your device is lost or stolen? Follow these important tips to avoid information security breaches.

**1**

Password Protection

All personal devices should be protected with a secret password that would be difficult for anyone to guess. A good password would involve a mix of letters, numbers, and special characters. In addition to passphrases, bio-factor authentication, such as fingerprints, retina scans, or facial recognition technologies, are very effective. Passwords to avoid: Middle names, birthdays, Children/family members names, pet names, etc.

**2**

Theft Prevention

Always secure your physical devices. Don't leave cell phones or laptops exposed in unattended cars. Do not leave your computer unattended when working in a public space. Also, take advantage of any feature that allows you to disable or wipe your device remotely.

**3**

Keep Personal Devices Personal

If possible, try to keep your work and personal devices separate. Often, viruses and malware make their way onto devices from everyday web surfing and personal media downloads. Avoid these kinds of activities on your work devices, and similarly, avoid working on personal devices that may be infected with malware.

Pro Tip: "Man in the Middle" Attacks

When working on Wi-Fi in a public space like a coffee shop, you run the risk of an eavesdropping attack, where cybercriminals spy on the information coming and going from your device.

Want to learn more about Emtrain's cyber security solutions? Check out our course on [Cyber Security](#) and microlesson on [Information Security and Human Error](#). For immediate assistance, [Contact Us](#).