

How to keep your information safe
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Scammers and thieves are everywhere! Along with old tricks they're constantly advancing their scams with computers to separate you from your hard earned cash. But you can use some tricks of your own to keep your personal information safe.

Start with never sharing your usernames, passwords, account/card numbers, social security number, or DOB with anyone. This includes companies that you haven't investigated to be a legitimate entity. Keep in mind that most companies or government agencies will NOT call you asking for your personal information. Nor will they e-mail you, urging you to act quickly or citing trouble for you if you don't complete a certain action.

Let's be honest. It's not easy to keep track of all of the different usernames and passwords we use in a day. But even here there are steps you can take to ensure your personal information stays safe. Use multi-factor authentication such as a fingerprint or a one time use code sent to you via text or email. If you write your passwords down, do so using code words ((Example: writing "color of my first car123! Is code for Brown123!)) And as much trouble as it can be, try not to use the same passwords for different logins.

Not even your garbage is safe from a determined thief. Be sure to shred paper documents from financial institutions, credit card companies, and retirement agencies. With all this information keep in mind that not all thieves are strangers!