

# How to avoid being a victim of identity theft

## Do's

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**1** Create strong passwords and protect them carefully. (Strong passwords have eight characters or more, and use a combination of letters, numbers and symbols.)

**2** Keep your computer's operating system and all your applications updated with the latest security patches.

**3** Be careful about opening attachments in emails and instant messaging, especially from unknown senders.

**4** Review bank and credit card statements regularly.

**5** Shred bank and credit card statements and other financial data before disposal.

**6** Install and regularly update software firewall, antivirus, and anti-spyware solutions.

**7** If you think you've become a victim of identity theft

or cybercrime, report it to the proper authorities immediately – the police and Cyber 999 (Malaysia Computer Emergency Response Team) by Cybersecurity Malaysia.



## Don'ts

**1** Don't provide personal data to anyone over the phone or in person (eg. for a job or loan application) unless you are certain that the other party is trustworthy.

**2** Don't give out personal information in response to an email, a website you arrive at via an external link, or a pop-up screen that appears on a real website. Open a new browser window and type the URL directly into the address bar to ensure the site is legitimate.

**3** Don't keep financial data on mobile devices and notebooks unless absolutely necessary. Mobile devices and notebooks are far more likely to be stolen than desktops.