

## SAFE ONLINE SHOPPING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



Black Friday and Cyber Monday can be exciting times to snag amazing deals. Still, it's essential to be aware of potential security risks when shopping during these hectic sales events. Here are **TEN TIPS** to keep yourself safe while shopping this holiday season:

1. Use strong, unique passwords for each account you create, and don't reuse the same password for different accounts.
2. Never use public Wi-Fi to make purchases or log in to sensitive accounts. Instead, use a secure home Wi-Fi network or your mobile data plan.
3. Shop only at trustworthy and reputable online retailers. Look for the "HTTPS" in the web address, indicating a secure connection.
4. Avoid clicking on links in unsolicited emails or texts - they may be phishing attempts.
5. Use a mobile payment app like Apple Pay, Google Wallet, or PayPal instead of entering credit card information directly on retailer websites.
6. Keep your device software updated with the latest security patches and anti-virus software.
7. Set up two-factor authentication on your accounts to add an extra layer of security.
8. Be wary of deals that seem too good to be true, as they may be scams or counterfeit products.
9. Check your bank and credit card statements regularly for any fraudulent charges.
10. Don't leave your personal or financial information saved on websites after making a purchase.

**Stay alert when shopping online, especially during holiday sales events like Black Friday and Cyber Monday.**

Hackers often use phishing emails or fake websites to try to get access to your personal and financial information. To avoid falling for their schemes, verify the authenticity of any emails or websites before entering your information, use strong passwords and two-factor authentication, and be cautious of deals that seem too good to be true.

Follow these tips, share them with your family and friends, question things too good to be true, and stay safe during this Holiday Season.