

# Security Now

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## Is My Private Information Safe?

•**NO!!**

- Millions of people's Information has been stolen to date
  - Target, Home Depot Even Albertsons have been some of the largest/well known break-ins
  - Information stolen includes email addresses, credit card information, and passwords
  - This information is for sale on hacker sites (typically \$5-6 per person)

## What should I do?

- Be paranoid!!
  - Check your credit card statements carefully
    - Hackers have gotten smart they often just charge small amounts to your card
    - When I eat out, I often adjust the tip to ensure that the total bill ends in ".00" or ".50"
      - Making it easy to scan my credit card bill for false charges
  - You can contact the 3 credit card agencies and have them put a fraud alert on your account.
    - Anyone trying to open an account in your name will be blocked and you will be asked to OK the transaction
  - You can get further information on Identity theft from the Federal Trade Commission <http://ftc.gov/idtheft>

## What About Passwords?

- It is poor practice to use the same password for different sites
- How can I remember all these different passwords?
  - There is an App for that
    - I recommend LASTPASS (Free) <https://lastpass.com/>
      - Lastpass will remember and automatically fill out your login information
      - When you login to a site, not in Lastpasses data base
        - It will ask you if you want lastpass to remember your login information
      - When you change the password at a site (and you should)
        - Lastpass will recognize what you are doing and offer to generate a password for you
        - It will then remember the new password for future logins
        - More information can be found in my Computer club handouts
          - [http://www.scs-cc.com/smnr/Password\\_Managers.pdf](http://www.scs-cc.com/smnr/Password_Managers.pdf)

## What else can I do?

- Some Cards (American Express) will send you a text alert anytime a payment is made and the card is not present.
  - You can also get alerts for purchases over a given amount
- Some Cards (Citi) will allow to get "Virtual Credit Cards", which will expire on any date you specify.
  - You can also specify a maximum value for the card.
  - When making a purchase on a web site you are not familiar with
    - You can use a virtual card which expires the next day and is only good for the amount of the purchase.

## What else can I do?

- Hackers often insert "skimmers" in the card slots of ATMs, Gas Pumps, etc
  - If the card slot looks funny/different – check with the owner
  - To prevent them from "seeing" you enter your pin
    - Hold one hand over the keypad while you enter pin with the other
- Be alert when surfing the web
  - Consider adding Web of Trust to your browser
    - <https://www.mywot.com/>
    - This will add a circle next to links on the screen
      - Green = OK
      - Orange/Red = be careful/danger

# Spam and Phishing

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## Phishing -1

- Phishing emails look like they came from a known source



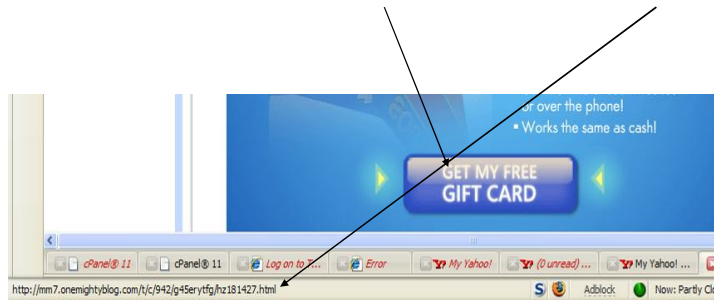
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## Phishing -2

- Check Links to see if they are what they are what they say
  - Place Cursor over link, look at status bar



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## Phishing -3

- Good Practice is never click on links on suspicious mails - but key the correct address into the address bar
- If there are places in the email which ask you to key in personal info (SSN, Passwords, Account Numbers, etc)
  - **DO NOT FILL THESE OUT!!**
- It is very easy to fake the *From* address – do NOT depend upon this to tell you who the sender is!

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## What else can I do?

- Do not trust links in email (even if from friends)
  - The "From" address, in email, is easy to fake
  - Your friend could be infected with a virus which uses his contact list to send copies of itself to everyone
  - Rather than just "clicking" on the link, type the address in the browser's address bar directly
- Consider installing Web of Trust in your browser
  - WOT puts circles next to your links to indicate safety of site
    - <http://www.mywot.com>
- BE PARANOID