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As our day-to-day lives move more into the digital world, there is a need to become increasingly savvy when it comes to protecting our sensitive data, particularly our financial information.

Cybercriminals continually come up with new



ways to try and trick us, so they can obtain our personal information -- be it passwords, Social Security numbers or credit records. This month's InFocus looks at various ways you can become more diligent about cybersecurity to help keep your identity to yourself.

## YOUNG AND VULNERABLE: CYBERTHIEVES TARGET 16-UNDER

Many under the age of 16 don't have much money, a line of credit or even a job. Cyberthieves don't care. They have made this group of youth their No. 1 target for identity theft. **Jared Hoffman** is a cybersecurity specialist with the BAM ALLIANCE and a member of InfraGard, a partnership between the FBI and the private-public sector that shares information and analysis in an effort to fight cybercrime.

<u>In this video</u>, Hoffman explains why children are being targeted like never before, gives signs that may indicate that a child's identity has indeed been compromised, and offers preventative steps to keep this from happening to a young person that you love.

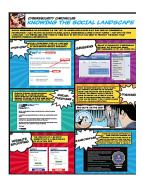


## KNOWING THE SOCIAL LANDSCAPE

Social engineering is the act of cyberthieves attempting to manipulate people into giving up their sensitive personal information. Social engineering comes in many forms and has its own language -- it's also known as human hacking and can take the form of phishing, smishing, vishing and spoofing, to name just a few.

Our <u>Cybersecurity Chronicles</u> gives you a graphical, guided tour through the social engineering landscape to help put on alert for the various ways that the bad guys are trying to trick you.

## | RELATED ARTICLE: Ways to Identify Fraudulent Emails



## 1234P@s\$W0rdTip\$

Entering passwords has become a regular part of our routine, whether we are signing in to our computers, unlocking our phones, or logging in to our favorite websites or apps. Passwords help protect our most sensitive data but too often we use ones that are simple and easy to crack. It's like leaving our digital front door unlocked. Tighten your digital defense by doing the following.

- 1. Use a combination of capital and lowercase letters, numbers and special characters. Make sure it's at least eight characters in length. Check the strength of your password <a href="here">here</a>.
- 2. Protect your password diligently by never writing it down, sharing it with others and changing it frequently.
- 3. Sure it's more convenient, but don't let your browser remember passwords for you.
- 4. Use <u>password management software</u>, such as 1Password, Dashlane or KeePass. A password manager creates different, complex passwords for each of your accounts, but you only have to remember one master password.





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