

Software to protect your computer

ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE

Always install anti-virus software to protect your computer and personal data. Ensure that virus definitions are updated regularly (at least monthly).

PERSONAL FIREWALL

Regular users of the Internet should protect themselves from hacking and computer intrusion by installing and using personal firewall software. Particularly those using a cable Internet connection.

USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES

Child Protection:-

www.safekids.com
www.netparenting.com
www.ou.edu/oupd/kidsafe/inet_ans.htm
www.fbi.gov/publications/pguide/pguidee.htm

Anti Virus & Virus Information:-

www.symantec.com

Should you need to report a criminal offence involving the use of a computer, you should contact your local police and seek advice.

Credit card statements should be checked regularly to identify any unauthorised transactions.

Should you discover that your credit card number has been used to make an unauthorised transaction on the Internet, you should immediately contact your bank or credit provider and request a transaction reversal.

Victoria Police Computer Crime Squad

St.Kilda Road Police Complex,
Level 19 / 412 St.Kilda Road,
Melbourne, Vic. 3004

Phone: (03) 9865-2757
Fax: (03) 9865-5031
Email: ccis@police.vic.gov.au



VICTORIA POLICE

Computer Survival Guide



Victoria Police Computer Crime Squad

**Information
Brochure**

KIDS IN A VIRTUAL WORLD

ARE THEY SAFE ON THE INTERNET?

The Internet could expose young users to:

- Pornographic material.
- Chemistry information and drug recipes.
- Information for making bombs and explosives.
- Illegal software and files.
- Gambling.

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A POTENTIAL INTERNET VICTIM?

Parental supervision is crucial when children are using the Internet. You wouldn't leave your child alone in the real world so don't do it in a virtual world.

- The Internet mirrors the world's society, not just Australia's.
- In some countries a 14 year old is considered an adult.
- Chat rooms are real time. It is just like talking with a stranger on a telephone.
- Paedophiles use chat rooms and email too!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT THEY ARE DOING?

With a computer it is just as easy for a young person to commit a crime, as it is for them to become a victim.

- Credit card fraud.
- Hacking or unauthorised remote access of computer systems.
- Spreading computer Trojans or Viruses.
- False age and identification documents.
- Swapping or sending illegal material.

AS A PARENT- WHAT CAN YOU DO?

EDUCATE YOURSELF ABOUT COMPUTERS

- Join a computer users group.
- Read books and on-line tutorials or services.
- Pay attention to what your child is doing.
- Limit your child's time at the keyboard.

BE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING KIDS SAFE

- Don't allow children to fill out on-line profiles.
- Don't allow children to fill out on-line registration forms.
- Don't allow children to provide personal information ie: telephone number, address, school or age.
- Don't allow children to meet with on-line friends without a parent present, at least in the first instance.
- Initial meetings should be away from the home.

WATCH FOR TELLTALE BEHAVIOUR

- Excessive late night computer usage.
- Secret behaviour about computer usage.
- Hidden and/or password protected files and folders.
- Don't be afraid to ask them what they are doing. They are your children, and it is your business.

REVIEW YOUR CHILDS ACTIVITY ON THE INTERNET

- Web address line.
- Internet history.
- Internet temporary stored pages.
- Downloads.
- Use software to limit access to Internet pages.

YOUR INTERNET SAFETY

CREDIT CARD USAGE

- It is generally safe to use a credit card on the net, but ensure you know with whom you're dealing.
- Is it a known and reputable company?
- Is there a security policy to protect your details?

ON-LINE AUCTIONS

- Do you know whom you are dealing with?
- If possible, call the vendor to confirm their telephone number.
- Where possible, confirm an address before sending money.
- Be cautious if requested to send money to a post office box.

CHAT ROOMS

- Stalking, harassment or unwanted overtures.
- Being traced to home. Never provide personal details, address or telephone numbers.
- Use extreme caution if you decide to meet with an on-line friend. Let someone know and leave details of the meeting.
- If you decide to meet a friend, first do so during daylight hours and in a public place.

VIRUSES AND TROJANS

- Viruses can cause damage to your data and/or your computer.
- Trojans may allow others to remotely access the personal data stored on your computer.
- Ensure that you have up-to-date Virus and Trojan protection software.
- Viruses and Trojans may be attachments to an e-mail, or on floppy disks.
- Never accept or execute files with a COM, EXE, or BAT extension from an unknown source.