



# 9-step

## social media security checklist

- Is my device password-protected?**  
Make sure that your device can only be opened through a passcode, especially if you have social media and other applications installed on your phone or computer.
- Do I have a unique email address for my social media accounts?**  
Use a separate email address for your social media accounts. This can help prevent hackers from accessing valuable information in case your account gets compromised.
- What social media accounts do I use?**  
Close the accounts that you are not using, as these may be compromised without your knowledge.
- Do I practice a good password hygiene?**  
Use a passphrase (a password made up of multiple words) with special characters. Have different passwords for your social media accounts. Change passwords regularly.
- Is my account secure?**  
Enable multi-factor authentication on all of your accounts. By having a code sent to your email or phone to verify first-time log-ins, you are preventing hackers from gaining access to your account. Get alerts about unrecognized logins as well, so you are notified if anyone logs in from a device or browser you don't normally use.
- What applications are connected to my social media account?**  
Do you log in to other websites – YouTube, Spotify, Netflix – through your social media account? Are you fond of taking quizzes on Facebook? Regularly review the applications and websites connected to your account, as these normally request information from Facebook that may cost the security of your identity.
- Who are my connections?**  
Do you know who among your connections are your real 'friends', and who are mere acquaintances? Determining the kind of relationship you have with your online connections can help with identifying possible fake or compromised accounts.
- What kind of posts do I click on?**  
Click on links with caution. Be wary of anything that says 'free' or that you have 'won' a fortune, as well as 'news' that are too controversial. It is highly possible that these are phishing scams aimed to get your information. Hover over the link to confirm if the web address is indeed what the link says it is.
- What kind of information do I share, and with whom do I share them?**  
Be careful about what you share. Don't reveal sensitive personal information, even to your 'friends'. Remember that the more you post, the easier it is to have your identity stolen. Remember as well that even your Friends-only posts can be easily shared, even to those off Facebook.