

TOP 10 WAYS TO STAY SAFE AT HOME

- Update default passwords for all internet connected devices immediately. This includes routers, smart TVs, game consoles, and anything that requires a login.
- 2. Every device and every account needs a strong and unique password. Or, even better, a passphrase!
- The admin account is for one person: you. Don't give those credentials to other members of your household.
- 4. When setting up your wireless router, be sure to use the proper encryption, such as WPA2. Older versions, like WEP, are no longer secure.
- **5. Enable automatic updating for software and firmware.** You'll want all of your devices on the latest and greatest so as not to miss out on important security patches.
- 6. Disconnect any devices that are no longer being used or whose internet connection is rarely used.
- **7.** Physically protect your devices! Use surge protectors, power things off during strong thunderstorms, and be careful with liquids near any technology.
- **8.** Back it up! Your phones, your laptops, your tablets all store data that you probably want to keep. Back those devices up both locally and remotely.
- **9. Create a family security policy.** Develop a set of rules for you and everyone in your household to follow. Remember that policy violations should come with consequences!
- **10.** Use internet monitoring software to know what your kids are doing online. And explain to them why it's important!

HOW DO YOU PROTECT YOUR KIDS FROM ONLINE THREATS?

Children of all ages are major targets for cybercriminals (and cyberbullying). Protecting them online is an especially difficult task these days considering how many avenues they have to connect. But we have a combination of tools and real-life lessons at our disposal to assist us. It starts with knowing what we're up against (identifying the threats). Then, we can leverage the tools and technologies designed to mitigate those threats. Did you know, almost 10% of kids aged 18 and under have had their identity stolen and most don't even know? Know their credit scores and consider an ID Protection monitoring service for them, too. Eventually we'll change long-term behavior and raise smart and safe digital citizens.

