

Victoria Police are seeing more cases of technology-initiated fraud than ever before. These cases can be challenging to investigate for a host of reasons. Sometimes the criminals live overseas, or don't leave a trace of where they live. Sometimes people lose a few hundred dollars, some have lost hundreds of thousands. If a criminal steals your identity, the cost can't even be quantified. Crime Stoppers have partnered with Victoria Police to prepare some resources that we are encouraging the community to look at and most importantly – share with people you care about who may not be as cybersavvy as you.

It's time to shutdown cybercrime, for the full Crime Stoppers Victoria toolkit please visit [www.crimestoppersvic.com.au/cybercrime](http://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au/cybercrime)



### **Article 1 – Basic online security safety**

Every day we follow basic habits, mostly without thinking, to protect ourselves.

- We wash our hands after visiting the bathroom.
- We put the seatbelt on in the car.
- We lock our front door when we leave the house.

Today is the day, if you haven't already, to apply some basic habits to your online safety.

The team at Crime Stoppers visited the Australian Cyber Conference to speak to the experts. We asked them "If you could tell your grandmother to do one thing to make her safer online, what would it be?". The majority of delegates gave the same, simple answer: use a strong password.

Hands up if you are still using the same couple of passwords as you thought up 10 years ago. Chances are it is between 6 and 8 characters and might use one digit and one symbol. Times have changed, with hackers now using algorithms that make light work out of weak passwords.

A strong password is a long password. For a Google password, it can be as long as 100 characters. You don't even have to use numbers or symbols (but they are a real bonus). You can even use spaces (but not at the beginning or end of the password).

To help you remember, and to keep it unique, Google advise using:

A lyric from a song or poem

A meaningful quote from a movie or speech

A passage from a book

A series of words that are meaningful to you

An abbreviation: Make a password from the first letter of each word in a sentence

Examples for music lovers

Neil Young – Old Man

24andthere'ssomuchmore

Britney Spears – Toxic

2HIGHcan't comedown

Examples for lovers of literature

Shakespeare – Richard III

ThatIwillshortlysendthysoul2Heaven.

Jane Austen – Pride and Prejudice

Vanity&prideRdifferentthings

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