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Information Technology Services

Information and Cybersecurity Awareness

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Should I send this along?

"Small actions, big difference – welcome to the digital neighbourhood"

Do you really want to share all your secrets with the world? That item you shared this morning might have legal, ethical or very personal implications for you and your friends or family. Think before you share!

Introduction

Studies have shown that the main reason for sharing stories, information and news online is to nurture relationships with others. However, with the torrent of information, pictures and memes we consume daily, how do you make sure what you are sharing with others is true and will not cause harm to the receivers or yourself?

How to protect yourself

Here is a list of things to avoid sharing on social media:

- **Screenshots of personal conversations:** You may find it funny, but people will avoid sharing information with you if they think you might share it with others.



- **Your home address and phone numbers:** Do not share your address or phone numbers unless your audience is made up of close friends only.
- **Your financial status:** Information on your credit card, bank balance or price of your awesome new car might grab the attention of a criminal looking for a target.
- **Explicit content:** The content shared on the internet never gets deleted. You might remove it from your social profile; however, you will not know how many times it has been shared and where else it has been captured or preserved. Moreover, you might get into legal trouble if it contained anything that's not permitted by law. So, be aware and be safe.
- **Untrue statements about someone:** Never use social media as a tool for revenge. People will take you on your word you without asking for proof. You might cause someone immeasurable harm and it might be illegal.

There are many more things to avoid sharing. Before clicking the Share button ask yourself:

Would I share this with my mother, father, grandmother, or child? Would I mind if my colleagues and employer or potential future employers saw what I want to share? Would I mind if someone with devious intentions got hold of this information? Is this really true?

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[The risks of oversharing on social media](#)

[What people share on social media](#)

[Ten things you should never post on social media](#)

DO MORE



Before you post, stop and **THINK**:
Is it **T**True? Is it **H**urtful? Is it **I**llegal?
Is it **N**ecessary? Is it **K**ind?