



Information Technology Services

Information and Cybersecurity Awareness

Email ithelp@up.ac.za | www.up.ac.za/itsecurity



I know who you are...

'Think before you click, like or share'

Protecting your privacy is crucial. Cybercrime can cause significant harm and emotional distress. Identity theft is when a fraudster hijacks your personal information in order to steal your money, take out credit or commit other types of fraud.

Research shows that victims feel stressed, fearful, anxious, depressed and isolated when this happens.

Introduction

If you don't believe us, [this video](#) is designed to make you feel a fraction of what it is like to be the victim. We need to protect ourselves.

What can I do?

Here are things you can do to protect your personal information:

- Treat your ID number and other personal information the same way you would treat your bank account number or keys.



- Only divulge personal information when you absolutely have to.
- Ignore those voluntary fields and always opt out of additional processing (eg, sharing your personal information with third parties).
- Manage or switch off cookies (if you are given the option).
- Don't be afraid to question why a person needs your personal information or a specific piece of information.
- Don't be afraid to verify the person requesting the information's credentials before answering questions.
- Don't inadvertently reveal personal information on social media (careful with those vaccination cards!).
- Don't throw things like bank statements in the bin—shred them.
- Check whether someone has taken credit out in your name with a credit bureau once a year—it is free.
- Have SMS alerts for transactions on your bank account and always read them!

SEE MORE

[Importance of the protection of personal information](#)

READ MORE

[The physical and emotional toll of identity theft victimisation](#)

DO MORE

[Register at SAFPS](#)

If you think you are a victim, report it to the Southern African Fraud Prevention Service and apply for protective registration: www.safps.org.za. It works!