



## **Identity Theft Prevention 2024 - 2025**

# IDENTITY THEFT PREVENTION

## Definition

Identity theft is defined as the fraudulent acquisition and use of a person's private identifying information, usually for financial gain.

What Can I Do to Protect My Identity and Prevent Identity Theft?

- **Take stock.** Know the personal information you have in your files and on your computers
- **Scale down.** Keep only what you need
- **Lock it.** Protect the information in your care
- **Pitch it.** Properly dispose of what you no longer need
- Plan ahead. Create a plan to respond to security incidents

## Resources

Identity Theft Resource Information: <https://www.idtheftcenter.org/>

Privacy Rights Clearinghouse: <https://privacyrights.org/data-breaches>

# Tips to Protect Your Identity Online

Identity theft is on the rise, with the number of victims steadily climbing year after year, according to a Javelin research study. Since the rise in personal technology and social media leads to increased vulnerability in users' personal information, it is the consumer's job to stay aware and take preventative action. Here are some tips on how to prevent becoming a victim of identity theft:

## CREATE STRONG PASSWORDS

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Make them long, include special characters, change often and don't use the same one for multiple accounts

## PROTECT YOUR SMARTPHONE



Don't keep any personal information on your phone, especially without a password lock

## KNOW WHAT INFO YOU SHARE



Know the personal information you're sharing on social media and manage your account's privacy settings

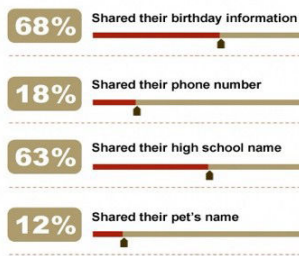
### MOST POPULAR PASSWORDS OF 2011

1	Password
2	123456
3	12345678
4	abc123
5	qwerty
6	monkey
7	letmein
8	DRAGON
9	111111
10	baseball

### SMARTPHONE USERS



### PEOPLE WITH PUBLIC PROFILES



## Monitor Your Credit & Sign Up For Identity Theft Protection Services

### Don't Become a Victim:



43%

43% of fraud is first detected by victims (2011)

Sign up for an identity theft protection service.



#### CHOOSE ONE THAT:

Provides 3-bureau credit report monitoring.



Scans the Internet black market and chatrooms for any use of your credit cards, bank accounts, Social Security number and other personal information



Monitors public records and databases for changes to your name, address or social security information

### Protect Yourself:

SCAMS

There are 83,083 unique phishing domains worldwide second half of 2011



Some identity theft protection services offer Internet Security Software, anti-phishing and anti-keylogging capabilities



Many Internet security software suites let you open a browser in a secure environment to safely do your banking and enter personal information.

Sources: SplashData, Javelin Strategy, Anti-Phishing Working Group