

# Tips and Tricks #2

## Safe Computing Checklist



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Database & Software Development  
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### ACCESS CONTROL

- Lock your computer when you are away. Press  
- Don't share or write down your passwords.
- Choose strong passwords (uppercase, lowercase, numbers & characters)
- Change your passwords every 1 to 2 months.


### EMAIL

- Don't open email or attachments from unknown senders.
- Don't click on web site links in emails unless from a reputable source.
- Encrypt sensitive emails and attachments.

### INTERNET

- Use your business computer only for business. Avoid disreputable and file-sharing web sites (music, photos, games, etc.)
- Verify a web site's encryption and security certificate before sending credit card or other sensitive information. 

### PROTECTION

- Make sure your firewall, antivirus, and Internet protection software is working and is not showing any warnings.
- Make sure Windows is set to update automatically and make sure any pending updates are addressed. 
- Keep your laptop locked to a docking station or use a cable lock.
- Secure or encrypt files that contain sensitive information.
- Back up your computer regularly.

### MANAGEMENT

- Find out what information security regulations apply to your business and make sure you are compliant (GLB Act, PCI, HIPAA, State laws, etc.)
- Have your system audited annually for security risks. 