



The McAfee 10-Step Internet Safety Plan for Your Family

A helpful online safety guide for children, teenagers and Internet novices of all ages.

Millions of families all around the world use the Internet every day. Cyberspace offers numerous benefits and opportunities but is also increasingly risky. Any member of the family who is active online, whatever their age, needs to know about Internet security.

The 10-Step Safety Plan to Help Protect Everyone in Your Family

1 Choose the right place for your computer

In a home with children, we recommend that you set up your computer in a high-traffic family area. Make sure that you use security software with parental controls, or specific software designed to protect children online, like McAfee® Family Protection.

2 Set limits

Set limits together and agree on the no-go areas as well as which web sites, forums and chat rooms are appropriate to visit.

3 Together, agree on PC rules for all the family, including:

- User names should not reveal a person's true identity and should not be provocative
- Passwords should be kept secret
- No information should be given that could reveal a person's true identity
- Do not post any embarrassing or offensive photographs that may reveal a person's true identity (e.g. school name on a t-shirt)
- Do not share personal information with strangers or people that you have only met online and do not agree to meet face-to-face with these people
- Never open attachments from strangers

Once you have agreed the rules, post them next to the computer.

FACT 1:

50% of teenagers who are active online have given out personal information.¹

FACT 2:

Hackers attack PCs with an Internet connection every 39 seconds.²



4 Sign an agreement for appropriate online behaviour

Write out a short agreement or use the template at www.mcafee.com/advice, so that all members of the family are clear about online behaviour. In addition to the rules specified in step 3, the agreement should also contain the following:

- If I find myself in an online situation where I feel unsafe or uncomfortable, I promise to tell you (my parents/my guardian/my teacher), so that you can help me.

5 Install security software

Make sure you have robust security software that protects your computer against viruses, hackers and spyware and that also filters offensive content, pictures and web sites. Ideally use security software that updates automatically, like McAfee software.

6 Use parental controls

Take time to learn how these controls work and use the options to filter and block inappropriate material. To completely protect your children online, use McAfee Family Protection software.

7 Remind family members that people met online are strangers

Online “friends” are, and will always be, strangers. It is easy to lie and pretend to be someone else. Visit the social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook and check your children’s profile to ensure that all content posted is appropriate.

8 Create strong passwords

A strong password that is difficult to “crack” needs to contain at least eight characters, which should be a combination of letters, numbers and symbols. Passwords should be changed periodically.

FACT 3:

30% of teenagers have been victims of cyberbullying on one or more times during a school term.³

FACT 4:

31% of children have been exposed to harmful content.¹



9 Check your computer's security software

Make sure that your computer is protected by the following three core-products: antivirus software, anti-spyware and a firewall. These should be augmented with anti-phishing protection and parental control software. McAfee SiteAdvisor™ or McAfee Family Protection software are both recommended.

10 Stay informed

The more you know, the safer you are. You will find Internet security information at the McAfee Security Advice Centre: www.mcafee.com/advice



The McAfee 10-Step Internet Safety Plan for Your Family
How to talk to kids, tweens, teens, and novices of any age about online security

McAfee

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You can find more detailed information in "The McAfee 10-step Internet safety plan for your family".

Download the eGuide: www.mcafee.com/advice

¹ EU Kids Online, Comparing Children's Online Opportunities and Risks Across Europe (2006–2009)

² Hackers Attack Every 39 Seconds – James Clark School of Engineering, University of Maryland

³ theage.com.au



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