

Cry for Help

Computer Tips & Tricks for the novice to the advanced.

Identity Fraud

We've talked before about keeping passwords secure, but there is another risk to your identity. This is especially relevant if you use a laptop, as many more people and students are doing nowadays.

Let's consider what happens when you get your computer to remember your login and or password. These details are stored securely inside your computer so that next time you go to that web site, be it FaceBook or Banking etc the computer will automatically fill in these details for you to make logging on easier. Now let us suppose that your house is robbed, and your computer is stolen. As soon as the new user of your computer starts it up and goes to that web site, they are now logging on as you. They will be able to change anything about you, and so steel your identity.

The same happens for your eMail. Even though they won't see your eMail password, then can request a new password and have it sent to the eMail address. So now you have lost control of your eMails.

So, bottom line is:

1. Do NOT let your computer save your passwords.
2. Immediately after a computer theft – contact your eMail provider and change your password.

Also, always travel with your laptop in the car boot so that it is out of sight.

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