

Cry for Help

Computer Tips & Tricks for the novice to the advanced.

Secure Hot Spot Usage

The number of public Wi-Fi Hot Spots available has grown enormously and you need to follow a few simple rules to keep your information safe.

It doesn't matter whether it is an iPad, NetBook or Laptop – this is what you need to do.

- 1) Always use a secure Wi-Fi Hot Spot when available in preference to a non-secure one. Use the ones that have a pass key.
- 2) If you do have to use an unsecured Hot Spot – this is not the time to enter your credit card details onto a web site.
- 3) Turn off your device Wi-Fi ability when not being used. Most Laptops have a keyboard switch for this very purpose.
- 4) When sending/receiving sensitive information by eMail, be sure to encrypt it first. This is not expensive or hard to do.
- 5) Store information in PRIVATE folders on your device, not public ones.
- 6) Turn off File and Printer sharing while on the road.
- 7) You will already be using a firewall, so make sure it is on.
- 8) Always use a password to login, we've talked about this before, upper and lower case characters, and numbers.
- 9) Have a short screensaver time, and re-ask for the password when it starts up again.

As mobile computing gets easier and more commonplace – we must not forget the basics. These new tools are great for productivity, but keep safe!

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