



Stay cybersafe this holiday

Description

The holiday season is a time of joy and celebration. Sadly, it's also a time of increased cybercrime. As we become more active online when shopping for gifts and travelling, cybercriminals see an opportunity to exploit our vulnerabilities.

Cybercrime tends to spike during the holiday season, with a significant increase in phishing attacks, online scams and data breaches. Here are 12 essential tips to help you stay safe during this festive period.

Be cautious when shopping online



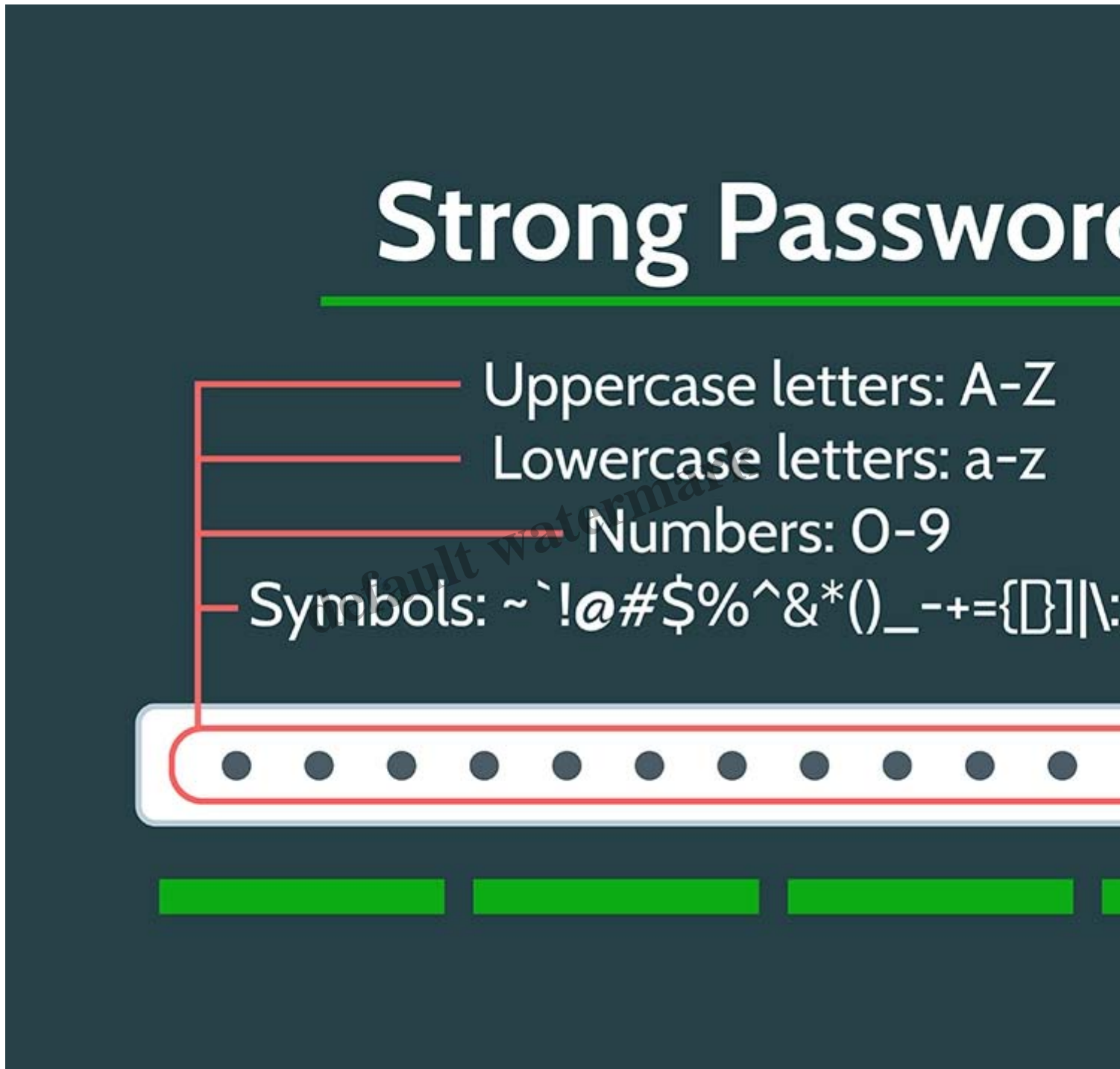
Stick to well-known and trusted online retailers and look for HTTPS in the URL, which indicates a secure connection.

Avoid public Wi-Fi



Avoid using public Wi-Fi networks as these networks are often unsecured, making it easier for cybercriminals to intercept your data.

Use strong passwords



Create strong, unique passwords for your online accounts that contain a mix of upper and lowercase letters, symbols and numbers.

Monitor your accounts



Regularly check your bank and credit card statements for any unauthorised transactions.

Secure your mobile device



Use a strong password, PIN, or biometric authentication to lock your device and try to keep it out of sight in busy public areas.

Install security software



Use reputable security software to protect your device from malware and other cyberthreats.

Keep software updated



Regularly update your device's operating system and apps to patch any security vulnerabilities.

Use a VPN



A Virtual Private Network (VPN) encrypts your internet connection, making it difficult for cybercriminals to intercept your data.

Turn off sharing



Disable file sharing and other sharing options such as Bluetooth when you must connect your device to a public Wi-Fi.

Recognise and avoid phishing



Cybercriminals send fake emails or messages that appear to be from legitimate sources to steal your personal information, so always double-check the sender's email and phone number.

Look for red flags



Be wary of messages with urgent language, spelling errors, suspicious links, or those asking for personal information.

Don't click on links



Avoid clicking on links or downloading attachments from unknown sources. Instead, visit the website directly by typing the URL into your browser.

By following these tips, you can enjoy a safer and more secure holiday season. Stay vigilant, protect your personal information, and take proactive steps to safeguard your online activities.

Category

1. Our Knowledge Centre