

The 10 Commandments for Safe Computing

Updated September 27, 2016

- 1 - Use a reputable antivirus program such as Avast (free) or Norton (paid) and be sure it is up to date.
- 2 - Install the program Malwarebytes and run it monthly or more often. (free)
<https://www.malwarebytes.com/mwb-download/>
- 3 - Make sure your computer's Windows Updates are current, especially if you're running Windows 7.
- 4 - Do not open email if you don't know the sender.
- 5 - Do not click on hyperlinks if you don't know where they go.
- 6 - Do not use a password that contains a name, date, phone or house number etc. Use a minimum of 8 characters including uppercase, lowercase, numbers and special characters. Do not use the same password over and over again. Keep a record of your passwords. Don't attach passwords to your keyboard or computer where anyone can see them.
- 7 - Is your computer doing something weird? Have you tried rebooting it? Rebooting a computer can actually solve many problems.
<http://www.howtogeek.com/173760/htg-explains-why-does-rebooting-a-computer-fix-so-many-problems/>
- 8 - If you get a popup that says you have a computer problem (virus, etc.) and call this number, it is a HOAX! Don't call! Microsoft will never send you a popup that says you have a virus and to call a number.
- 9 - If you receive an email, popup or banner saying you have won or inherited money or free stuff, etc. it's a HOAX! Don't reply!
- 10 - Backup - If you have critical files that would be a disaster if lost, back them up! Use a USB drive or a cloud service. Dropbox cloud is one of the best. <https://www.dropbox.com/referrals/NTMOMzEwNzI5?src=global9>