

Tips and Tricks: Fraud Prevention Checklist

How secure are you in your daily life?

Check each statement that applies to you.

The more boxes you check, the more areas may require attention.

- My email account lacks strong security protections.
- I reuse passwords across multiple accounts.
- I do not use multi-factor authentication where available.
- My devices or apps are not consistently kept up to date.
- I use public Wi-Fi for banking or other sensitive activity.
- I click links or open attachments without verifying the sender.
- I do not carefully review email addresses or website URLs.
- I generally act quickly if I feel pressured for financial requests.
- I do not regularly monitor bank or credit card activity.
- I am unsure what to do or who to contact if fraud occurs.



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Understanding the risks and how to address them

1. Protect your email account

Email accounts are often used to reset passwords and approve transactions. Using strong passwords and additional authentication can help reduce the risk of unauthorized access.

2. Use unique passwords

Reusing passwords means a single breach can affect multiple accounts. Unique passwords help limit the impact if one account is compromised.

3. Turn on multi-factor authentication

Multi-factor authentication adds an extra step that can help prevent unauthorized access, even if a password is compromised.

4. Keep devices and apps up to date

Software updates often address known security gaps. Keeping devices current can help reduce exposure to common threats.

5. Avoid public Wi-Fi for sensitive activity

Public Wi-Fi networks can often be less secure. Using a private, password-protected connection is safer, especially for financial transactions.

6. Verify before clicking

Unexpected links or attachments are a common starting point for fraud. Confirming the sender through a trusted method can help prevent issues.

7. Review addresses carefully

Fraudulent emails and websites often include small spelling changes or extra characters. Taking a moment to review addresses closely can help identify risks.

8. Pause when requests feel urgent

Fraud attempts often rely on creating urgency. Pausing to verify requests can help reduce the risk of acting on misleading information.

9. Monitor accounts and documents

Regularly reviewing bank and credit card statements, setting up transaction alerts, and securely shredding sensitive documents can help detect and reduce fraud risk.

10. Know who to contact if something goes wrong

If you suspect fraud, contact your financial institution immediately, report the issue to local police, and notify the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre.

For more information, please visit [fct.ca](https://www.fct.ca)



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