

ONLINE SECURITY

Secure Passwords: Wise password management is your first line of defense

- *Never share your password with anyone:* Not even with your closest friends; they might accidentally share your password with others.
- *Strongly consider using a password manager:* Options such as 1Password, 1Password **Families**, LastPass or iCloud Keychain securely store all of your passwords for you under a single password.
- *Create unique passwords for each individual account:* If one account is compromised, it will not open access to other accounts.
- *Make passwords at least 8 characters in length, including capital & lower case letters, numbers & symbols:* Do not use common names or words, or anything that could be associated with your personal information, such as a Birthday.
- *Do not store passwords in an accessible location, such as on a sticky note or journal near a computer, or in Notes on a hand-held device.*
- *Never answer security questions with answers that someone could look up about you:* Not difficult to determine your mother's maiden name or the street where you grew up.
- *Consider adding two-step verification:* Login system that requires a password plus a code sent to your specified device (such as an iPhone) before you can access an account on an unknown (new) device or change any of its information. Two-step verification (authentication) is supported by Apple ID, as well as Google, Evernote, Dropbox, Facebook, Twitter, and more.

Categories of Devices: Varying methods/levels of control

- *Fixed Devices:* Devices that are only used in the home, such as desktop computers, Apple TV, gaming consoles and baby monitors. Easiest to control.
- *Mobile Devices:* Devices that are used in the home, as well as away from home, such as laptops, iPads and other tablets, and smartphones. More challenging to control.
- *Other people's devices:* Devices such as computers, tablets, smartphones or gaming devices owned by someone else and used in another person's home or at school or elsewhere. Most difficult to control.

Device Based Restrictions: Features offered within Operating Systems

- *Apple Computer (MacOS) Parental Controls:* Use Parental Controls preferences to manage, monitor, and control the time your children spend on the Mac, the websites they visit, and the people they chat with.
https://support.apple.com/kb/PH25799?locale=en_US

- *Monitor computer usage:* View logs to monitor a user's app and Internet activities. https://support.apple.com/kb/PH25504?locale=en_US&viewlocale=en_US
- *Restrictions on iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch:* Block or limit specific apps and features. <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT201304>
- *Prevent unintentional or unauthorized purchases from your iTunes Store account:* Require a password for purchases, prevent certain types of purchases, or disable purchasing completely. <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT204396>
- *Apple TV Restrictions:* Limit access to certain content & features on your Apple TV. <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT200198>
- *Microsoft Family Account (parental controls):* Manage and monitor family's digital life across Windows PCs, Xbox, and mobile devices. Features: activity reports for all online activity from children's accounts; block apps, games or sites; limit how much time they spend on the account; strictly control their purchasing activity; track your children's location as long as you use Windows mobile devices. <https://account.microsoft.com/family/about>

Routers offering Parental Controls & Cybersecurity Protection: There are an increasing number of products offering network protection and controls; examples with the highest recent reviews:

- *CIRCLE (Disney):* This little box can manage every device on your network, filtering out unwanted content, applying a variety of time limits, blocking Platforms (Platforms refer to popular Internet-aware apps such as HBO or Snapchat), and providing the option to pause access to the internet for all managed devices or just one specific device. Drawback: User can escape control by *CIRCLE* on a smartphone by tapping into a neighbor's Wi-Fi, using Wi-Fi at school, or at a friend's house. <https://meetcircle.com/>
- *CIRCLE Go (for iPhone) app:* extends the device's tracking and filtering, so that it works even when your child is on a different Wi-Fi or cellular network. Requires monthly service fee. <https://meetcircle.com/circle-go/>
- *ROQOS Core:* scalable Wi-Fi router with cloud-based management accessible by mobile app and web browser; high processing power and large memory and storage to provide enterprise grade cybersecurity and parental controls for your home. Enables subscription-based service. https://roqos.com/features_faq.html
- *EERO:* wall to wall wifi, including security and family controls. <https://eero.com/>

Software based Parental Controls: New and enhanced offerings are continuing to emerge:

- *Examples:* Google (<https://madebygoogle.com/wifi/app/>); ContentWatch Net Nanny; Qustodio Parental Control; Symantec Norton Family Premier; Open DNS Family Shield (Cisco); Covenant Eyes (http://www.covenanteyes.com/?utm_expId=69154314-12.jhNA86r9Tb-Sj4BX5y2CMA.0)