Safe online shopping

Internet Safety Starts with you.
Doing your shopping online – whether it's for clothes, food, hardware or items for your hobby or pastime – saves time and effort, and sometimes money too.

But online shoppers are also a favourite target for dishonest people engaged in fraud, selling substandard or fake goods, or setting prices based on your buying habits.

Top tips for safe online shopping

- Use only reputable shopping sites which you know, or come recommended.
- Remember that paying by credit card offers greater protection than with other methods.
- Double check all details of your purchase before confirming payment.
- Do not reply to unsolicited emails from companies you don't recognise.
- Before entering payment card details on a website, ensure that the page is secure by checking that there is a padlock symbol in the browser window frame, the web address begins with ‘https://’ and the address bar or the name of the site owner turns green.
- Do not make payment for goods when using an unsecured Wi-Fi connection.
- Choose strong passwords and keep them to yourself.
- Check sellers’ privacy policy and returns policy.
- Always log out of shopping websites when you have completed your payment.
- Keep receipts, and check credit card and bank statements.
- Always have effective and updated internet security software loaded and switched on.

For more information on safe online shopping, please visit www.getsafeonline.org, click ‘Shopping, Banking & Payments’ and select ‘Shopping’
Get Safe Online

Get Safe Online is the UK’s leading source of information and advice on online safety and security, for the public and small businesses. It is a not-for-profit, public/private sector partnership backed by a number of government departments, law enforcement agencies and leading organisations in internet security, banking and retail.

Our advice is free, authoritative, informative, impartial and easy to follow.

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www.getsafeonline.org

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