

# THE AMERICAN GUN OWNER

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- ▶ **NEW DRYFIRE TECHNOLOGIES**
- ▶ **EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CONCEALED CARRY**

The American Gun Association (AGA) provides information, tools, training, and support for gun owners throughout the USA.

The AGA stands and advocates for responsible gun ownership, as well as protecting our right to bear arms. Our mission is simple: **protect our guns, protect ourselves.**

# PROTECTING YOUR LIFESTYLE



**When it comes to protecting your lifestyle, there are a few obvious areas that come to mind. Financial security (including savings, investments, and insurance) is one of the most obvious, as is protecting one's property.**

We've given a fair bit of attention to those two areas in recent newsletters. But this month, we need to zero in on a facet of protecting your lifestyle that often gets overlooked: online privacy and security.

*Article continued on page 4*



**American Gun**  
ASSOCIATION

**The American Gun Owner** is the official monthly publication of the American Gun Association (AGA). We provide you with information, tools, training, support, and an active online community.

## WHY WE EXIST

There are many threats to your safety and security, and gun ownership is being challenged more than ever before. We support and defend the rights of responsible gun owners throughout the USA.

## OUR MISSION

Over the years, AGA has helped over 85,000 gun owners stay safe and secure. We help to educate and inform you about how to stay safe. Our goal is to provide you with at least 10x the value of your modest membership fee.

## OUR MEMBERS

Our members are hard working Americans like you, from all walks of life, backgrounds and locations, united in advocating the right to own firearms to defend themselves and their family. Our members are aware of the serious responsibilities that come with owning guns, and safety is their #1 priority

## YOUR AGA ELITE MEMBER BENEFITS:

\* The option to **test and keep gear** valued at up to \$85.00 for FREE (just cover the shipping and handling). Look out for the emails and text messages, as well as announcements in the Facebook Group.

\* Thousands of **discounts, savings and giveaways** on movie tickets, oil changes, pizza, car rental and much much more. Many members tell us they're saving in the region of \$150.00+ every month! Go to **AGAd Deals.com** to access your benefits instantly!

\* This **monthly printed publication** delivered to your door, with **articles, tips and training on developing new skills**, along with a **test** to evaluate your progress.

\* The **online community** on Facebook, where our members share ideas and tips about family protection. To join, visit **AGAmembers.com** and click on the **+Join Group** button. Please allow 24 hours for approval, although it's often much faster.

\* Online Member Dashboard with unlimited access to member exclusive, downloadable Course Library and information. Also includes Podcast and Video library and member forums.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

*CONTACT US:*

**Email:** [support@gunassociation.org](mailto:support@gunassociation.org)

**Call:** 512-782-4624 (7am-11pm CST M-F, and 10am-7pm Sat)

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# MEET THE EXPERTS

## CRAIG CAUDILL



**Craig Caudill** has spent a lifetime practicing and teaching survival, preparedness and self-reliance, skills. He is the director of the Nature Reliance School and teaches these skills in the midwestern and southeastern U.S.

He is an incredibly active blogger and writer for several different blogs and self-reliance magazines. He has appeared on educational television teaching self-reliance skills multiple times.

He has a worldwide student base who study with him through his online self-reliance school. Craig considers himself a student in all things and is regularly studying with other instructors, thinking and practicing outside the box of conventional wisdom, and honing both his abilities and teaching methods.

His students have included military operators, law enforcement special response units, and many average ordinary law-abiding citizens.

## JEREMY PARSONS



**Jeremy Parsons** is a former Marine sniper with multiple combat deployments overseas. He is truly a world-class expert at handling firearms.

Jeremy is a native of Austin, Texas. He joined the Marines at the age of 20 and quickly realized his passion for both the military and for shooting.

His passion for helping and instructing other gun owners led him to open a business where people can learn to be proficient with their firearms and feel more comfortable owning them.

Once hitting his unit he signed up for the scout sniper indoctrination and made his way into the platoon.

After a deployment to Iraq, he attended and graduated from Scout Sniper School and gained the title of **Marine Scout Sniper**.

Following a deployment to Afghanistan and starting a family he decided to leave the Marines and spend more time at home.

When returning to Austin his passion and skill lead him to start a company that would allow him to do what he loves to do, namely instruct and shoot.

## CHRISTINE ZÁDOR



**Christine Zádor** is the President & CEO of San Joaquin Rifle and Pistol Range, Inc. (SJRPR) located in Linden, CA. Her parents opened the range in 1979. Christine has dedicated herself to carrying on her parent's legacy by continuing to operate and develop the range today. Christine's dream is to make San Joaquin Rifle and Pistol Range a top-notch shooting facility.

Christine Zádor has created a long history of success in several different industries, however her true passion is in the firearms industry. Before taking ownership of SJRPR she attended the University of Southern California, where she played water polo and won an NCAA Women's Championship. She later co-founded a water polo board company named Zaqua Boards, and has been coaching water polo for many years.

Ever the adventurer, Christine also enjoys swimming, hiking, horseback riding, and traveling to meet and learn stories of Veterans in determination to make a difference in their healing process.

Christine is an avid shooter and currently competes in the USPSA, American Marksman, and competes in nationwide competitions.

The news often talks about how this or that major company suffered a data breach.

Examples from 2020 (so far) include Microsoft, Fifth Third Bank, MGM Resorts, Walgreens, T-Mobile, Facebook, the US Marshals, and Ancestry.com. And of course, no one can forget the furor that was raised over 500,000+ Zoom teleconferencing accounts being discovered on the Dark Web in April.

It's easy to look at that list and think to yourself, "It'll never happen to me or my family."

But think about how many online accounts you have – how many apps you have installed on the computers and smartphones in your home.

If any of those companies and app developers are hacked, it could be happening to you and your family.

After all, in all of the examples listed above, it was the private data of users and customers that were leaked, not the company's bank accounts or internal documents.

Some people realize this and go into a major panic mode, deleting accounts and uninstalling apps. That can quickly become overkill, which is just as bad as the other end of the spectrum – not caring at all.

Most sites and blogs out there regurgitate the same advice endlessly, telling consumers to use secure passwords and 2-factor authentication. And while this is good advice everyone should be following... it's not going to help when the companies are getting hacked.

The skills training section of this month's newsletter will focus on the many other things you can and should do to protect your lifestyle from cyberthreats.

But it all starts with acknowledging our increased reliance on technology has left our lifestyles vulnerable to these sorts of threats in the first place.

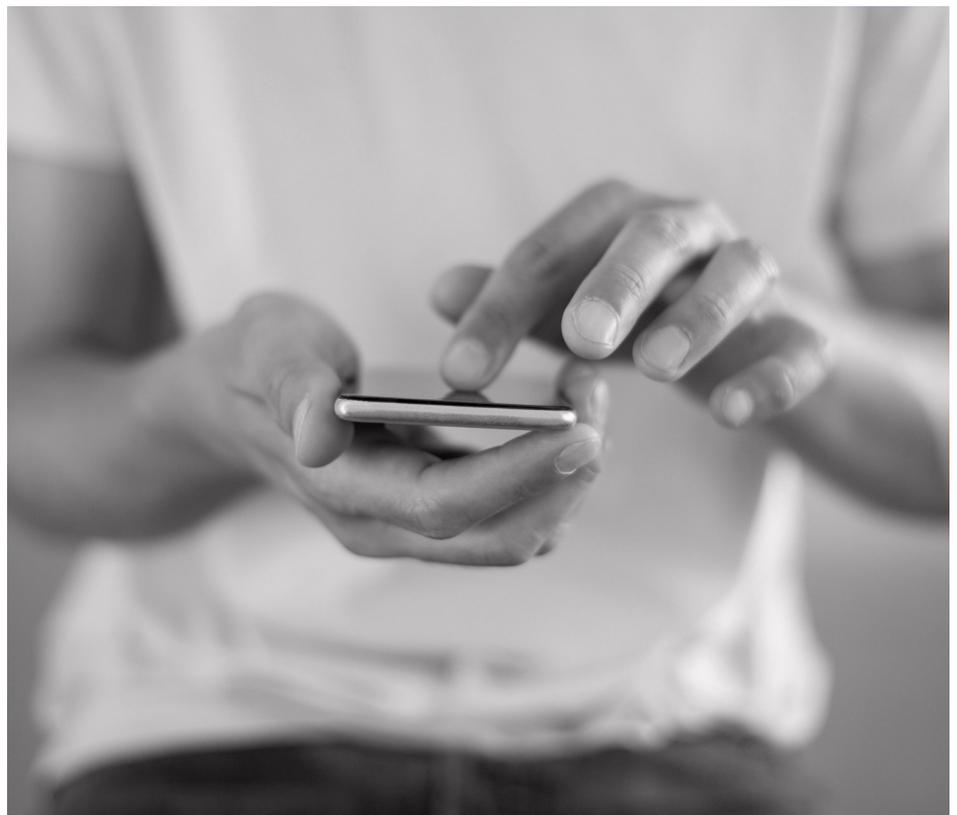
Think about it: if your lifestyle is dependent on your income, then online threats to that income - such as credit card fraud and identity theft - are threats to your lifestyle.

The time for complacency is long gone. It's time to take a stand and be proactive about protecting your lifestyle from all threats, not just the ones you can handle with a self-defense firearm.

Reading this newsletter as a member of the American Gun Association is already a step in the right direction.

***It's easy to look at that [Major tech companies] list and think to yourself, "It'll never happen to me or my family."***

The more you learn - and the more you act upon what you learn - the bigger your advantage is over those who have fallen into a false sense of security.



# HUNTING AND GATHERING GUIDE

## **When SHTF, you won't be able to go to the store for food.**

Depending on the disaster scenario, the general population might be panic-buying, supply lines might be interrupted, or you might simply be stuck in the middle of nowhere.

This is why it's so important to stockpile non-perishable foods as best as you can - both at home and, if possible, at a secure bug-out location.

But what happens if you don't have a bug-out location set-up? Or you aren't able to get there or reach your home?

This is why it's so important to know how to be self-reliant through hunting and gathering. After all, when SHTF, it might be your only option for feeding yourself and your family.

## **TRAPPING VS. HUNTING**

Even though we call it "hunting and gathering," there are really a few other activities involved.

Think about it. If you're relying solely on hunting, you need to spend time tracking and stalking game before you even get the chance at taking a shot to catch your dinner. And if you don't land a kill shot... you could be up for a long chase.

Luckily, hunting doesn't only refer to big game like deer or bison. It can also include trapping small game.

Trapping is a fantastic way to catch your dinner. Most of the time you spend actively working on trapping is

building and setting your traps, then coming back later in the day to check them for kills.

This frees you up to spend more time on other survival tasks - like building and fortifying your shelter or gathering herbs, roots, and other edible vegetation.

Another major benefit to trapping is it's virtually silent. This can be the difference between eating in peace or needing to fend off desperate people who follow the sound of your hunting



rifle and try stealing your kill because they failed to adequately prepare themselves.

And the best part is, you aren't limited to small game - even though that's what we instinctively think of when the term "trapping" gets thrown around. It's quite possible to set traps for deer or even bear.

## BASIC OVERVIEW OF TRAPPING TOOLS

While it certainly takes time to master the art of trapping, the tools and basic principles are thankfully quite simple.

Perhaps the simplest trap to make and use is the snare. A wire noose is anchored to a heavy object and set up to ensnare an animal. Snares can quickly suffocate an animal, but you should always be prepared for the possibility you might find a live animal caught in your trap.

Although the snare itself is a very basic trap, there are variations. For example, a spring pole snare uses a trigger action and offers a higher success rate.

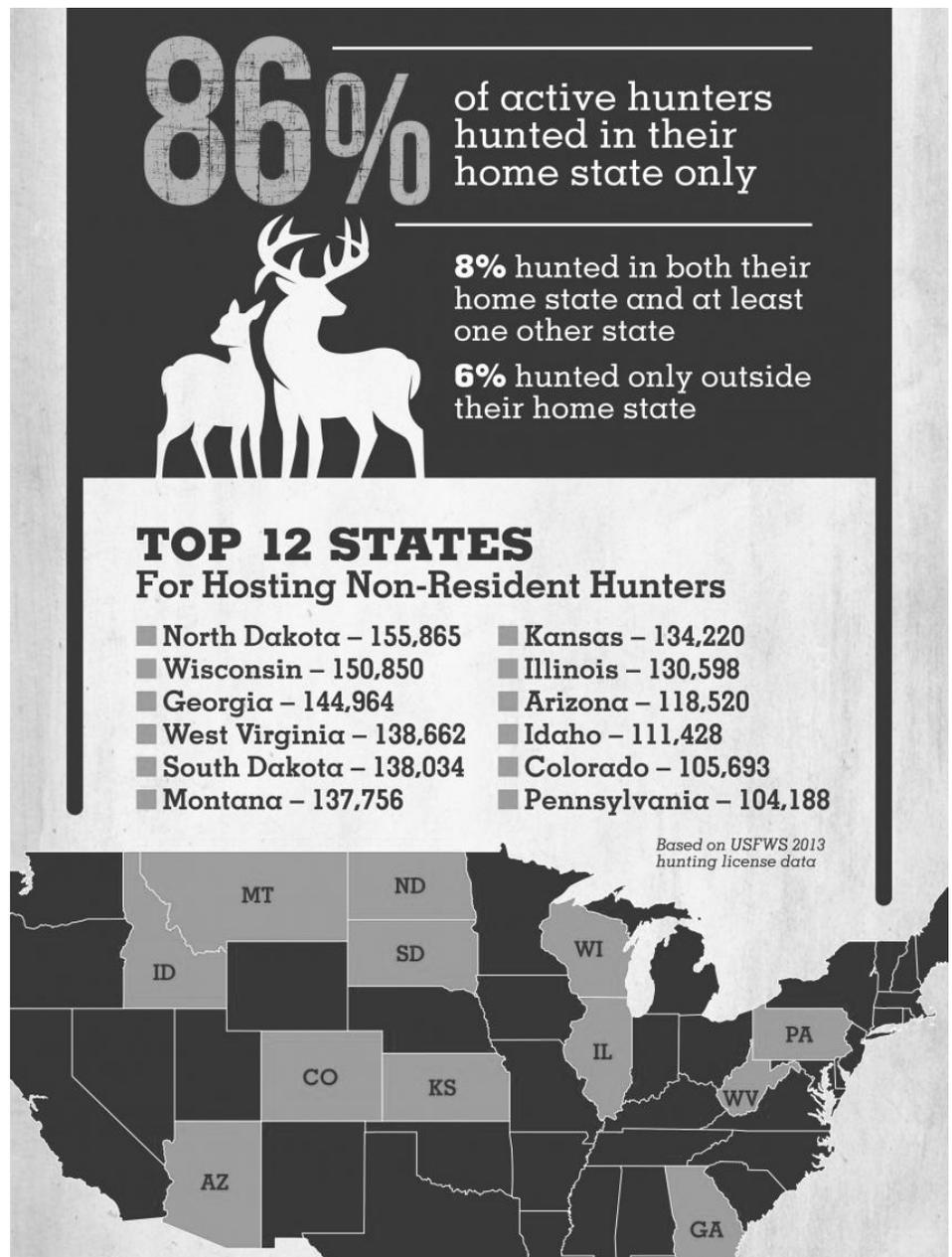
Another popular trap is the Paiute deadfall. Using two sturdy sticks of similar length, you prop up a weighted object, such as a rock. Another, thinner branch holds some bait, while a small twig connected to the lower support stick by cordage acts as the trigger.

Remember to use the bait stick to hold it in place.

As the animal attempts to reach the bait, the trigger stick unwraps from the lower support stick, causing the weighted object to drop. All that's left is for you to dispatch the trapped animal, or retrieve its body.

Perhaps the biggest downside to trapping is if you're in an area where the game learned to be trap-shy, you might have a hard time catching anything.

*While it certainly takes time to master the art of trapping, the tools and basic principles are thankfully quite simple.*



# Animals That Can Be Trapped



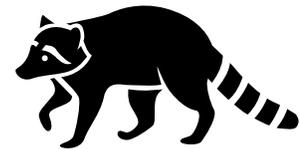
Rabbit



Beaver



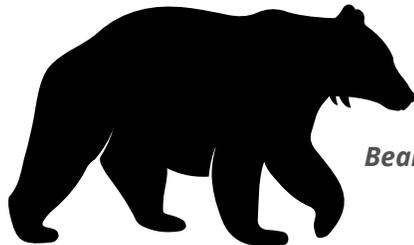
Squirrel



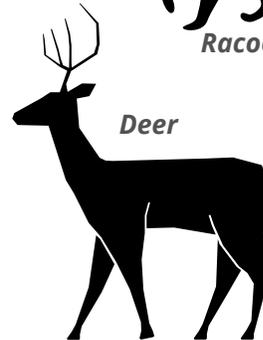
Raccoon



Opossum



Bear



Deer

## TOP FACEBOOK GROUP CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH



**Susan Rader-Thomas**

★ Rising Star



**Matt Santay**

Joined 3 weeks ago



**Travis Winchester**

Joined 6 weeks ago



**Bill Estes**

Joined 2 weeks ago



**Jeremy Teinert**

Joined 12 weeks ago

Adam Porsborg shared a link.  
 Conversation Starter · August 26 at 1:42 PM · 🌐

I don't think people get it yet. Proud American patriots are not going down without a fight.

TMZ.COM  
 'Vigilante' With Long Gun Shoots and Kills 2 Jacob Blake Protesters in Kenosha

👍👎🗨️ 833 903 Comments

Helen Medeiros Taylor shared a link.  
 Conversation Starter · August 23 at 1:03 PM · 🌐

NEWSWEEK.COM  
 Kamala Harris says she would give Congress 100 days to enact gun control laws before signing executive order

👍👎🗨️ 631 622 Comments

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Join us on Facebook at [www.AGAmembers.com](http://www.AGAmembers.com) for tips, ideas, news, and more.

Be sure to check out the latest news in your exclusive AGA Facebook community.

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# PROTECTING YOUR PERSONAL DATA FROM HACKERS AND ONLINE CRIMINALS

**In the first article of this month's newsletter, *Protecting Your Lifestyle*, we explain how protecting your personal data from hackers and online criminals' starts with acknowledging how our increased reliance on technology leaves us vulnerable to the threats in the first place.**

But what can we do as individuals?

That's what this training will focus on.

## **The Password Paradox**

Let's get some of the more obvious stuff every blogger, vlogger, and so-called expert is quick to regurgitate. After all, it's easy to forget it's still solid advice you should follow!

First is to have a strong password.

Absolutely none of your digital accounts should be using a weak or generic password if you

want to protect your personal data and digital assets.

Birthdays, anniversaries, your mother's maiden name, "password," 1234... none of these are good ideas. In a brute force cyberattack, generic passwords won't stand a chance.

There are two main schools of thought when it comes to creating a strong password:

- A strong password must have 12 or more characters; include a random mix of lowercase and uppercase letters, numbers, and symbols; doesn't rely on obvious substitutions like @ for a or 3 for e.
- A strong password can be as simple as 4 randomly selected dictionary words strung together to create a passphrase.

The former is notoriously difficult for

humans to remember, but very easy for computers to guess (relatively speaking). However, the latter is easy for humans to remember, but next to impossible for a computer to guess:

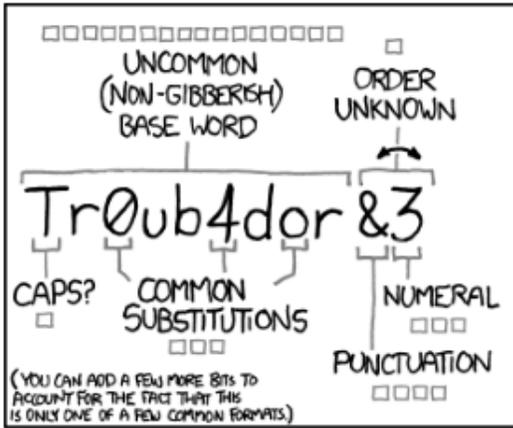
XKCD comic

So, which is better?

It depends on whether you want to use a password generator to create a properly randomized password and a password manager (like Dashlane) to remember it for you.

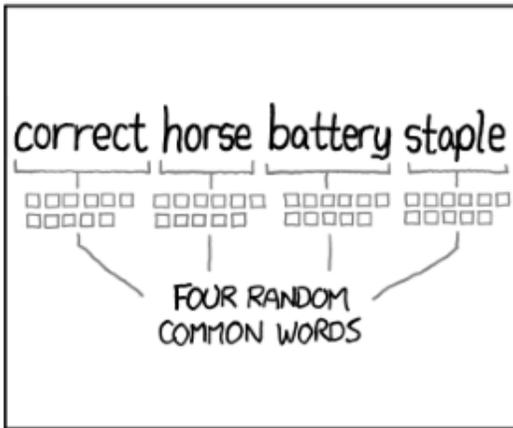
But that isn't the end of the password paradox!

Even the most theoretically secure password in the world might as well be generic if you're using it for multiple accounts. Remember, if a company's databases are hacked, your login info could be part of the data stolen - and with it, the cybercriminal could



~28 BITS OF ENTROPY  
 $2^{28} = 3 \text{ DAYS AT } 1000 \text{ GUESSES/SEC}$   
 (PLAUSIBLE ATTACK ON A WEAK REMOTE WEB SERVICE. YES, CRACKING A STOLEN HASH IS FASTER, BUT IT'S NOT WHAT THE AVERAGE USER SHOULD WORRY ABOUT.)  
 DIFFICULTY TO GUESS: **EASY**

WAS IT TROMBONE? NO, TROUBADOR. AND ONE OF THE O'S WAS A ZERO?  
 AND THERE WAS SOME SYMBOL...  
 DIFFICULTY TO REMEMBER: **HARD**



~44 BITS OF ENTROPY  
 $2^{44} = 550 \text{ YEARS AT } 1000 \text{ GUESSES/SEC}$   
 DIFFICULTY TO GUESS: **HARD**

THAT'S A BATTERY STAPLE.  
 CORRECT!  
 DIFFICULTY TO REMEMBER: YOU'VE ALREADY MEMORIZED IT

THROUGH 20 YEARS OF EFFORT, WE'VE SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED EVERYONE TO USE PASSWORDS THAT ARE HARD FOR HUMANS TO REMEMBER, BUT EASY FOR COMPUTERS TO GUESS.

access every account you own.

## Convenience is the Death of Cybersecurity

Take a look at your phone. How many apps have you installed? How many of them have ridiculously unnecessary permissions enabled?

Do yourself and your family a favor right now. Call everyone together and open the Settings function on everyone's phones. Now start going through all of your apps and taking a look at the access privileges you've given them.

Other than apps like Google Maps and Uber, there's no reason for you to give

away your location. And even those apps should have the permission set to "While Using the App" only.

Are apps like Instagram and SnapChat asking for access to your camera? That makes sense - but again, only while using the app. What doesn't make sense is for the CandyCrush clone game to be asking for the same permission.

Ditto for your microphone. Unless it's an app you use for voice notes, voice messages, or calls, there's no valid reason for it to want access to your microphone.

Are some of the apps refusing to work unless you re-enable the nonsensical, invasive access privileges you just

revoked? Uninstall them and find better alternatives that aren't thinly-veiled attempts at spying on you and your family.

Now think about the other smart devices you have in your home and do the same.

Rename your WiFi network. Consider changing the password as often as you can handle (this is also a great way to help enforce discipline in the home - no WiFi until chores and homework are done).

While it's true technology made almost everything in our lives incredibly convenient, it's also true that, most of the time, that convenience is a trap.



## Social Media

Social media is a great modern invention. It allows us to stay connected with friends and family from around the world, as well as stay up-to-date with our favorite celebrities and shows.

You can even use social media to promote your business or find new clients!

But here's the thing... cybercriminals can also use your social media account to collect a lot of data about you and your family. They wouldn't even need to hack your account or the social media platform!

It all comes down to how much you're sharing on your social media profiles.

Most people think nothing of including details like:

- Your home address
- Your workplace
- Phone numbers
- Email accounts
- Your location
- Photos of your home
- Photos of your kids
- Photos of yourself on vacation

Seems innocent, right?

Except right there, a cybercriminal has enough information to know when your house is empty and how long it'll take you to get back home from work, or if your home's empty because you're on vacation.

Next thing you know, you get home and all your valuables are gone.

And your phone numbers and email accounts? That's half the login information they need for hacking your online accounts.

As for photos and other details of your kids... studies have shown that information ends up on pedophile databases more often than you think. And if your address is up too, your kids could be targeted for kidnapping.

Moral of the story: enjoy social media responsibly by limiting the information you share about yourself and your family.

## Install a Reliable VPN

One of the best things you can do for yourself and your family is installing a reliable VPN.

Finding one is half the trick, though. You need one with a strict no-logs policy, military-grade encryption

standards, an automatic kill switch, and the ability to connect multiple devices to the same account at the same time.

Plus a long list of other recommended features!

To make things easier for you, here are 5 VPN providers that meet most (if not all) of the strictest online privacy factors:

- CyberGhost
- ExpressVPN
- NordVPN
- Surfshark
- VPNArea

At a minimum, these providers allow you to have 6 devices connected to a VPN server at the same time without needing to use a second account.

This means you can install the VPN app onto all the smartphones, desktops, and laptops in your household and protect your whole family.

As an added benefit, you can even have your VPN setup on your router. This allows you to protect every single device that uses your WiFi connection without them needing to use the VPN app.

If you have a lot of devices in your household, this is especially ideal, as the WiFi router counts as a single connection.

## Conclusion

While by no means an all-encompassing guide to what you can and should be doing to protect your personal data from cybercriminals, it's already a lot more than most people are doing. And that gives you an advantage.

# TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

After studying this training, we encourage you to test your knowledge with this quiz. The answers can be found at the bottom right hand corner of this page.

## 1: What does protecting your online data start with?

- A. Minimizing your digital footprint
- B. Acknowledging that technological convenience comes with increased risk
- C. Neither - it's big companies who are responsible for protecting our online data

## 2: What is a good way to create strong passwords?

- A. Use randomly selected combinations of alphanumeric symbols
- B. Use 4 randomly selected words that are easy for you to remember but aren't usually associated with each other
- C. Both A and B are considered good password practices for different reasons

## 3: If you use a theoretically strong password, you should...

- A. Have different passwords for all your accounts
- B. Write it down somewhere or save it on your device in case you forget it
- C. Use it for all your accounts

## 4: How can you improve your security on your phone?

- A. Revoke all unnecessary or nonsensical app access privileges
- B. Set necessary app access privileges to "While Using the App" only
- C. Both of the above

## 5: What should you do to protect your private data with smart devices other than your phone and computer?

- A. Tape over any cameras and microphones
- B. Change your WiFi name and password
- C. Replace them with generic devices, for example selling your smart fridge and replacing it with a regular one

## 6: What is a surprisingly easy way for cybercriminals to harvest your private data?

- A. Brute force attacks, even if you have very strong passwords
- B. Your social media profile
- C. Phishing attacks

## 7: Why should you not share photos and other details about your kids online?

- A. That data often ends up on pedophile databases online, putting your children at risk of physical danger
- B. They might find it embarrassing when they're older and grow up resenting you for it
- C. It annoys your friends and family when photos of your kids keep flooding their newsfeed

## 8: Why should you not share holiday photos online while you're away?

- A. Because you should be enjoying the experience instead of bragging about it online.
- B. Because it tells criminals that your home is likely empty
- C. Both of the above

## 9: What's a great way to protect all the internet-connected devices at home?

- A. Monitor and limit use
- B. Switch them off while not in use
- C. Install a VPN onto your home's WiFi router

## 10: What is the advantage of a VPN that allows multiple simultaneous connections?

- A. You can keep multiple devices protected at once, even when not at home
- B. It allows you to control the connections
- C. Neither of the above

## QUIZ ANSWERS

1b, 2c, 3a, 4c, 5b, 6b, 7a, 8b, 9c, 10a

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