

## Exercise

# What needs protecting?

## Summary

1. Module: Data Security and Digital Privacy<sup>1</sup>
2. Objective: Learn about digital security and what needs to be protected
3. Time Allotment: 1 hour

## Relevant slide

[Presentation slide](#)

## Steps

### Main exercise

Break out into groups and identify your role, responsibilities and risks, then discuss in the group what needs protecting and how to mitigate risks as samples below.

### What about you?

Write your story...	What needs protecting?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do you do?</li><li>• Who do you work with?</li><li>• Would anyone want to stop you in your activities? If so, who?</li><li>• Does anyone want to know what you do? If so, who?</li></ul>	<p>List your most important information and activities. Need ideas? See previous pages for inspiration.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li></ol>

<sup>1</sup> This lesson was adapted from the World Bank's Introduction to Data Literacy training manual by Eva Constantaras, and adapted by Yan Naung Oak, Open Development Cambodia and Open Development Initiative, and is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](#). For full terms of use, see [here](#).

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have you had any reasons to worry about your online activities or your devices?</li> </ul>	
<p>Now consider the risks in your activities, communications, and information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who has access to them?</li> <li>• Who should not have access to them?</li> <li>• Did you reconsider some of your risks? Which risks? And in which way?</li> </ul>	<p>List strategies and solutions you've found in this booklet or elsewhere that you want to explore more.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.</li> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> <li>6.</li> </ol>

You can have an understanding from some examples below or find out more from [this booklet](#):

<b>Savant, The Journalist</b>	What needs protecting?
<p>Savant is a journalist communicating with survivors of puppy mills. Savant's sources have secret information about a mill that has the chance to shut it down. Shady characters have already attempted to find out what information that is, so now Savant takes care that all of her communications are encrypted, and when she collaborates on an article, she uses encrypted file sharing options as well.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sources: names, communications, and contact</li> <li>2. Communication with editors</li> <li>3. Time-sensitive research</li> <li>4. Draft documents and articles, sometimes involving collaborators</li> </ol>
<p>Savant relies heavily on her phone for on-the-go communication. She constantly collaborates with others on future articles and documents. Savant is known for taking on stories that question the status quo, and she has no shortage of powerful people interested in that work.</p>	<p>To mitigate these risks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Savant encrypts emails to sources from her laptop ensuring the confidentiality of the messages.</li> <li>2. For chatting on a laptop or desktop, Savant uses an encrypted instant messenger and voice client.</li> <li>3. She uses encrypted texting and voice apps on her phone to connect with sources.</li> <li>4. When on shared or untrusted wifi (like a cafe), Savant uses a Virtual Private</li> </ol>

	<p>Network (VPN) to securely access the internet.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Her collaboration work is done through encrypted file sharing.</li> <li>6. When moving through security checkpoints, she turns off her computer to ensure full-disk encryption is active.</li> </ol>
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<b>Julio, The Civil Rights Lawyer</b>	What needs protecting?
<p>Julio works at a civil rights NGO. Though he does not work directly with clients, he knows his personal habits protect his co-workers and thus, the clients as well. Julio works very hard to ensure his security hygiene is quite good to responsibly care for his organization.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Legal and Financial information about the organization, donors, and employees</li> <li>2. Contact lists of partners and clients</li> <li>3. Integrity and trust the organization has built</li> <li>4. Private documents, like client statements and advocacy strategies</li> </ol>
<p>Julio is vulnerable during his frequent travels due to the unprotected wi-fi, connections, border checks, and multiple hotels he stays in. He has an open and helpful nature, which may make him trust too quickly. His organization is widely known for its work, and he is their public face, often being contacted by strangers for assistance or advice.</p>	<p>To mitigate these risks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Julio keeps software up-to-date.</li> <li>2. He has a password manager where he generates unique, strong passwords. To secure his password manager, he created a passphrase that is both strong and easy to remember using the Diceware method.</li> <li>3. When on shared or open wi-fi (like in a cafe), Julio uses a trusted Virtual Private Network (VPN) to encrypt his initial connection to the internet.</li> <li>4. When reading email, Julio uses caution in opening unexpected links or attachments, unless he has verified the senders' identity by calling or messaging them.</li> <li>5. When crossing country borders, Julio turns off his computer to ensure his full-disk encryption is active to prevent unauthorized access to his information.</li> <li>6. He remembers what is posted outside of work can impact the NGO's work as well. He is mindful when posting to ensure what he publishes on his personal</li> </ol>



	accounts cannot be used against him or his work (he is wary of posting locations, images from private events, addresses, etc.).
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## Further Practice

Discuss further on potential digital risks you may face and how to mitigate those risks.

