

# STOPPING CYBERCRIME: TIPS FOR CONSUMERS

Provided by the Financial Cybercrime Task Force of Kentucky,  
an internal working group of the Kentucky Department of Financial Institutions



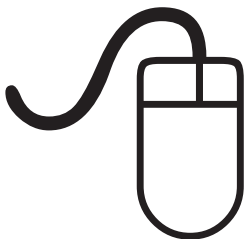
## **HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE**

- Install virus/malware protection
- Update all software and install patches
- Password protect home networks
- Never auto-fill or “remember” passwords



## **BANKING AND SHOPPING**

- Only give info over encrypted websites
- Look for “https” in the web address
- Review transactions regularly for unusual activity
- Check out businesses before buying



## **CLICKING, SHARING, SAVING ...**

- Never give out personal information over telephone, fax, email, social media
- Beware of emails and attachments
- Back up your files and delete personal information
- Be wary online



## **PASSWORDS**

- Choose two-factor authentication
- Make them unique
- Don’t use the same password for all accounts
- Keep them confidential
- Change them periodically

### **DO create passwords that:**

- Are 8 or more characters
- Contain uppercase and lowercase letters
- Contain a number
- Contain a special character
- Are unpredictable

### **Example of a strong password:**

Prot3ctYfc!

= *Protect Yourself From Cybercrime!*

### **Passwords should NOT:**

- Repeat letters or numbers or use sequences
- Use whole words or common phrases
- Name a specific person, place, thing, date, etc.

### **PINs should NOT:**

- Be a number easily identifiable with the user