Practical Steps for Prevention and Protection

- **Computer software and configuration**
  - Password protect all your computers, phones, tablets, devices (rotate the frequency of your shields)
  - Use current anti-virus software
    - Update virus definitions regularly
  - Install all critical software updates immediately
    - Operating system
    - Applications
  - Activate your computer’s firewall if applicable

http://www.purdue.edu/SecurePurdue
Practical Steps for Prevention and Protection

• General Internet Best Practices
  • What happens on the Internet stays on the Internet – almost everything is archived or logged – so don't post anything you wouldn’t want to appear in public at a later time
    • Logs: you leave footprints everywhere online (Google Searches, Web Browser Cookies and Cache, IP Address, Wi-Fi access points and cell towers, location data)
• Enable Privacy Controls on Social Media Services
• Know your social network friends personally if at all possible; use a different level of trust for cyber friends
• Use unique passwords for each online service (change periodically)
• Don't post personal information – address, cell or home phone, account info, money related info
• Monitor your accounts for unauthorized activity
• “Cloud” services are physical servers somewhere in the world
  • (not necessarily in the United States or governed by our laws)
Practical Steps for Prevention and Protection

- Use web sites in secure mode (https://...)
- Log out of social networking sites when you are finished (cyberpranking)
- Allowing 3rd party apps to have your username and password is risky
- Avoid opening unsolicited email attachments (HappyBirthday.exe)
- “Think before you click” (clickjacking, phishing, malware)
- Don’t paste unknown things into your browser’s address bar (script/code)
- Don’t trust email from financial institutions – navigate directly to their web site
- Don’t wander from the beaten path on the Internet (wander at your own risk!)
- A web browser is not anti-virus software (don’t fall for “your computer has a virus” scams)
Practical Steps for Prevention and Protection

• The accounts of friends and loved ones can be hacked!!!
  • *Beware of requests or enticing links from their accounts*
• Your friends are not stranded in London desperately needing $$$ !!!

Dear Friend,

How are you doing? Hope all is well with you and everybody?

I am sorry I didn't inform you about my traveling to England for a business trip and right now, I am stranded here and need to get back to Australia without delay.

I need a favor from you because I was robbed on my way back to my hotel suite.

The robbers carted away with my bag containing my wallet, phone, flight ticket and other valuables.

I will like you to lend me the sum of $3,500 US Dollars or any amount you can afford as half bread is better than none so that I can sort out my hotel bills and get myself back to Australia.

I promise to pay you back with an extra $1,000 US Dollars as soon as I return home in a few days time so kindly let me know if you can be of help.

I was told the fastest and safest way to receive money in seconds is through western union (since that is what works here). So if you can be of help, you can send the money using the details below:

Receiver Name: [Removed]
Address: [Removed]

To get a list of western union money transfer agents close to you, go to the link below and enter your full address:
www.westernunion.com/info/agentLocatorLookup.asp

Please as soon as you send the money, I will like you to send an email with the transaction code I will need to pick up the money. I will be back here in a couple of hours to get the transfer details, please do it without delay so I can get back to Australia.

After I receive the money, I will email you on the arrangements to get back home.

Thanks once again and I will really appreciate if you can be of help.

Love [Name removed]
Practical Steps for Prevention and Protection

- Don't publicly broadcast when you are leaving for vacation
- Don't publicly broadcast where you are
- Don't meet strangers alone
- Don't give anyone your account credentials (even prospective employers)
  - It breaks legally binding terms & conditions of the service!
- Accept friendships selectively
- Unfriend people who threaten you AND tell someone
- Don't use real answers in challenge response Qs
  - What was your mother’s maiden name? = TapeDispenser
- Encrypt account information stored on your computer/mobile device
  - TrueCrypt - http://www.truecrypt.org
  - Keeper - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g31s_0MI6yM
- Generally be aware of social engineering (people trying to trick you into giving them information)
- Google yourself once in awhile to see if any new accounts or information have appeared in your name