15 Ways to Protect Your Privacy on *Data Privacy Day* 2020

January 28 is Data Privacy Day! Put your best data privacy foot forward in 2020 with these 15 tips:

Be mindful of your existing account and app data

1. Revisit the account settings for your social media and email accounts.

2. Review app permissions on your mobile device and disable unnecessary access.

3. Close any online accounts that are unused or outdated.

4. Have a data cleanup day! Delete emails, messages and cloud-based files you no longer need.

Prevent unauthorized access to your data/information

5. Encrypt your computing devices such as desktop computers, laptops, USB drives, phones, and tablets.

6. Install and update anti-malware software on all computers and mobile devices.

7. Change your passwords. Make sure each one is unique and at least 16 characters.

8. Turn on two-factor authentication where available.

Control access to your browsing data

9. Check default browser security and privacy settings to make sure it is configured for your protection.

10. Install a browser extension (like Privacy Badger) to block questionable scripts and ads.

11. Set up a VPN to control the information you share with your internet service provider.

Restrict the collection of data by your Internet of Things devices

12. Set security updates to install automatically.

13. Switch OFF your smart devices when they're not in use.

14. Create a separate home Wi-Fi network exclusively for smart devices.

Educate yourself about data privacy

15. Read the privacy policies for your mobile apps and devices.

For more tips and instructions on how to secure USC and personal data visit ITS Services
https://itservices.usc.edu/security/tips/.

For questions or concerns about data privacy, reach out to TrojanSecure@usc.edu or Compliance@usc.edu.

USC Office of Culture, Ethics, and Compliance

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