

Enjoy your new connected devices this Christmas



**Keep them, and yourself, safe and secure
with our expert tips.**



www.getsafeonline.org



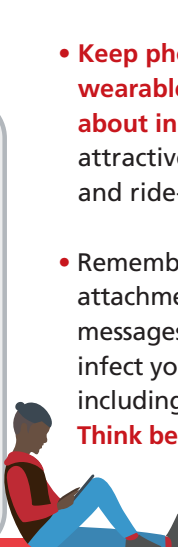
Mobile devices, game consoles and wearables make great presents ...



... are you buying one this Christmas? In all the excitement, it can be easy to forget to make sure it's set up and used safely and securely, so we've brought you some expert, practical tips to help.

- **Download an internet security app on mobile devices** – including Apple – and ensure you keep it updated. There's a wide choice available, some cover several devices, and some have advanced security features to reduce the impact of loss or theft.
- **Download app updates when prompted**, as they frequently contain security updates.
- **Update operating systems when prompted**, as this will also ensure you benefit from the latest online security.
- **Download apps only from official sources** such as App Store, Google Play or Microsoft Store.
- **Protect all mobile devices with a PIN or password**, even if they feature biometric protection.
- **Keep devices secure and out of harm's way**, as the information on them – and accessed from them – could be worth a lot more than the device itself in the wrong hands.
- **Change factory-set passwords** to your own secure passwords as soon as you connect the device to your Wi-Fi.
- If you've bought a second-hand mobile device, remove the previous owner's settings and data if this hasn't already been done. If you're selling, carry out a reset. Find out how by reading the manufacturer's website. Ensure the device is running the most up-to-date version of the operating system and apps before using it.
- **Never leave mobile devices or wearables unattended in vehicles, cafés, the gym or other public places.** Take advantage of the safe in hotel rooms.
- **Keep phones, tablets and wearables protected when out and about in crowded areas.** They make attractive targets for pickpockets and ride-by thieves.
- Remember that clicking on email attachments or links in emails, text messages and social media posts could infect your device with malware, including ransomware and spyware. **Think before you click.**

- **Back up all your devices regularly** so that your data, photos and music will be protected in the case of theft, loss or damage.
- **If the device is for a child or young person**, sit down and speak to them about safe and responsible use of the internet, including what they say and who they communicate with. You could also download a respected parental control app to block unsuitable content. And make sure that bills aren't being run up for in-game purchases.



Get the full story at www.getsafeonline.org/christmasdevices

#christmasdevices

Get Safe Online

Get Safe Online is the UK's leading source of information and advice on online safety and security, for the public and small businesses.

It is a not-for-profit, public/private sector partnership backed by a number of government departments, law enforcement agencies and leading organisations in internet security, banking and retail.



For more information and expert, easy-to-follow, impartial advice on safeguarding yourself, your family, finances, devices and workplace, visit **www.getsafeonline.org**



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