

Lock ID Thieves Out of Your Mobile Device

From Denise Richardson's GiveMeBackMyCredit.com

Consumers are increasing their dependence on smartphones and tablets for banking, shopping, social media and more. Should your device become lost or stolen the information stored could put you at risk for identity theft including the takeover of your own accounts.

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s.type = 'text/javascript';  
s.src = 'http://widgets.digg.com/buttons.js';  
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})();
```

There are simple steps you can take to help secure your information and, if necessary, erase your data from the device remotely:

Keep your Bluetooth off if you're not using it. Bluetooth technology gives electronic devices the ability to communicate wirelessly. But savvy fraudsters can pair their electronic devices to yours to access your information.

Avoid making financial transactions using a "hotspot" or public wireless network.

Password protect smartphones and tablets to lock your device when it's not in use. Some mobile devices, such as the iPhone, have the ability to erase all data after multiple failed passcode attempts.

Consider mobile security software. Some services include remote tracking that allows you to lock or erase data on your phone remotely if your device is lost or stolen.

Only download apps from reputable companies. Check the user comments and ratings for the app, and make sure you are comfortable with the access permissions granted to the application.

Remember, the first line of defense starts with you. Implementing simple steps and taking preventive action can lessen your exposure to identity theft.

As part of our ongoing support for America's Fraud Fighting Community this informative blog post is offered by fellow anti-fraud fighter: Robin Slade, President & CEO of The Foundation for Payments Fraud Abatement & Activism (FPF2A) and co-founder of Fraud Avengers.org.

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