

## Holiday Shopping Tips

### How can we improve the security of our holiday shopping?

The Internet is a great commerce innovation. It can connect buyers and sellers from around the globe faster than ever before. However, it comes with its costs -- it can connect us with criminals with the same lightning speed. Here are a few shopping tips to keep mind when cruising those online deals:



### *Holiday Email Safety*

- Delete emails from unknown senders without opening them, and delete emails that seem suspicious from known senders.
- Check out too-good-to-be-true offers through reliable sources.
- Never open email attachments or follow embedded links from senders you do not know.
- Never convey personal information, and certainly not any sensitive information, in emails.

### *Online Shopping Safety*

- Keep virus protection and other security software updated.
- Make sure your Internet connection is secure; check for indicators that security protection is in place.
- Use complex passwords -- upper/lower case letters, numbers, and symbols randomly.
- Avoid visiting unknown Web sites. Malicious software could be downloaded into your system.
- Shop well-known, reputable sites.
- When making online debit or credit card purchases, use a secure online connection.
- Make sure you save a copy of every transaction receipt in the event there is a question about payment.