

small things ^{\$} FOR SAFER DIGITAL SPACES

There are many ways we can add layers of safety to both ours and our children's online world, both in and outside the home. Read on for some tips on securing our digital spaces.

HOME ROUTER

Configure your home router (or PC) to use a filtered DNS service. This helps by:

- blocking a large number of adult sites
- viruses and malware across all your WiFi-enabled devices

Setup instructions are the same for most routers.

- **Cloudflare:** <https://blog.cloudflare.com/introducing-1-1-1-1-for-families/>
- **OpenDNS:** <https://support.opendns.com/hc/en-us/articles/228006487-FamilyShield-Router-Configuration-Instructions>
- **CleanBrowsing:** <https://cleanbrowsing.org/filters/>
- **Unifi:** <https://help.ui.com/hc/en-us/articles/360006893234-UniFi-USG-UDM-Configuring-Internet-Security-Settings#5.1>

Your Internet Service Provider (ISP) may provide the ability to pause the internet for devices in your home, allowing you control as you see fit:

- <https://www.optus.com.au/customer-extras/optus-pause>

SEARCH SECURITY

Protect your online privacy by setting your default search engine to one that doesn't record and track your search history.

- **Brave Browser:** <https://brave.com/>
- **Mozilla Firefox Browser:** <https://www.mozilla.org/firefox/download/>
- **DuckDuckGo Search Engine:** <https://duckduckgo.com>

On mobile devices:

- **Mozilla FirefoxFocus:** <https://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/browsers/mobile/focus/>
- **DuckDuckGo:** <https://duckduckgo.com/app>

Setting the "SafeSearch" to strict within your search engine prevents inappropriate search results from showing up in your search results.

PASSWORD PROTECTION

Using the same password for multiple online accounts is risky business. Unique and complex passwords can be easily generated and managed by a password manager. You need only remember the master password (which should be memorable for you but hard to predict). Examples of password managers include:

- **LastPass:** <https://www.lastpass.com/>
- **1Password:** <https://1password.com/>
- **Dashlane:** <https://www.dashlane.com/>
- Browsers provide a built-in Password Manager (better than nothing but not as feature rich)

PARENTAL CONTROLS

MOBILE DEVICES

Setting parental controls on mobile devices can provide a range of controls to manage apps, purchases, content and screen time:

- <https://support.apple.com/en-au/HT201304>
- <https://support.google.com/googleplay/answer/1075738>

For devices running Microsoft operating systems, additional options are available:

- <https://account.microsoft.com/family/about>

GAMING CONSOLES, SMART TVS AND STREAMING

Using parental controls for gaming consoles, smart TVs and streaming services such as: Netflix, Amazon Prime, AppleTV, Disney+, helps to prevent access to inappropriate content.

Using services designed for kids such as ABC KIDS ABC ME iView is an excellent way to ensure only appropriate content is viewable.

SUBSCRIPTION SOLUTIONS FOR ALL HOME DEVICES

- <https://parentpower.com.au/>
- <https://www.familyzone.com/>

REFERENCES:

- <https://www.esafety.gov.au/parents/skills-advice/taming-technology>