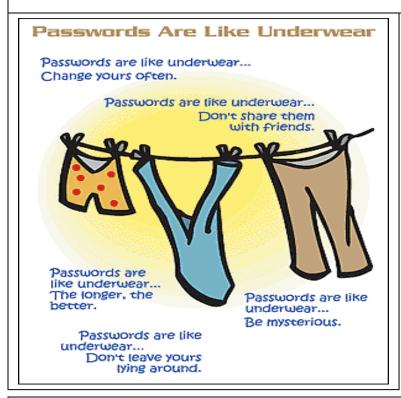
# **Information Security Tips**



## FREE Anti-Virus and Free Anti-Spyware

There are some very reputable vendors who offer free anti-virus to home users for personal use. Two of them are AVG (http://www.avg.com/product-avg-antivirus-free-edition) and AVAST! (www.avast.com). Then there is free antispyware from Spybot (www.spybot.com) where you may make a donation if you are so inclined.

While AVG, AVAST! and Spybot offer anti-malware products to protect your systems, some of the other well known vendors in this space are **Symantec** (Norton), Kaspersky Labs, and McAfee.





#### Wireless Networks

Got a wireless network at home? Here's how to protect it from hackers:

- Require that computers attaching to it use a password (WEP or WPA); and/or,
- Disable the SSID (the name you gave it) from broadcasting itself; or,
- Only allow specific computers, via their MAC address, to access the wireless network.

These settings are available to you in the setup program for the wireless device. Or consult a PC technician.



Basic protection against viruses and spyware.



# **How to Stay Safe Online**

- Make sure that the firewall in Windows is enabled, or install a better one.
- Don't open or click on links in emails from people that you don't know.
- Install an anti-virus program. Keep the virus definitions (signature files) up to date.
- Install software that protects against other kinds of malware: spyware, Trojans, etc.
- Prepare for the worst. Backup everything that you would hate to lose.
- Learn to dodge dangers online.
- Keep Windows, your browser, and other critical software patched and up to date.
- Use a password on your wireless router.
- Use strong passwords (letters, numbers & 9. characters) and never, ever give out your password to anyone.

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information on how to protect yourself, your family and your personal information, visit sites such as www.staysafeonline.org, or www.staysmartonline.gov.au; www.thinkuknow.co.uk; www.onguardonline.gov or www.mcgruff.org/advice/online\_safety.php.