

# Stay Safe When Paying Online

**Do you know that whenever you're making purchases online, your payment information could be at risk?**

Here are some safety tips to reduce the chances of this happening!



Always check that **HTTPS** is **enabled** while on the payment screen of a website. This is indicated by the **lock symbol** at the far left of your address bar. HTTPS ensures that network traffic is encrypted and your credit card information is safe.

Only deal with **reputable websites**. If buying from a website you haven't heard of, research it briefly to ensure its **legitimacy**.



If paying by card, **only use a credit card, never debit**. A stolen debit card can put your **entire account at risk**, while a bank is able to reverse credit card transactions.

Use **virtual credit cards** for online payments. Virtual credit cards are temporary credit cards created for a specific transaction that **reduce the potential damage** if a card were to be stolen. Services like **privacy.com** and some banks (e.g., CitiBank) offer this service.



**SCHOOL OF  
INFORMATION**

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