MAKE A FRESH START ONLINE

Minimise your digital trail, secure your privacy and make a fresh start online with our five key pieces of advice.

ONE

Secure unused devices.

Old external storage media like CDs, thumb drives, and removable hard drives are a potential source of data breach. Obtain some datawiping software or take your hardware to a specialist who will clear them for you.



TWO

Manage your permissions.

When you sign-up to a service it's easy to allow the software to send you notifications and track your location.

Check your list of connected services and revoke access to the ones you no longer want or need.



THREE

Delete old email accounts.

Email accounts don't vanish when you're not using them; they stay on platforms which may have out-of-date security. You never know if one might be used to try to steal your identity, so delete them.



FOUR

Check your privacy settings.

On social media you should research what and with whom your data is being shared. It's up to you to go in and customise privacy settings to be sure you are only sharing with the people you really want to.



FIVE

Have you been 'pwned'.

haveibeenpwned.com collates data recovered from hacking events. Use their searchable database to check if your credentials have ever been hacked or leaked. If they have, change the password of the affected account.



If you would like to know more about protecting your identity and securing your privacy please read our free booklet Make a fresh start online.





