Secure Internet Transactions

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Secure Internet Transactions

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A few weeks ago, I got married. Part of the whole marriage process for some is creating joint bank accounts. My wife and I recently went through creating a joint checking account. As we were setting everything up, the banker asked if we made many Internet purchases. The reason being, Internet fraud has become somewhat of a problem, and his advice was to leave my checking account intact. The idea is that we transfer funds over from our joint account into my old account, and make only Internet purchases under my old checking account. That way, if some fraud does occur, the damage is localized to my old account, rather than someone taking advantage of our entire joint account. Of course, I was sold.

We ended up leaving my old account intact. Rewind a few weeks prior to the wedding, when one of my bosses was complaining about some fraudulent purchases made with his credit card. After many hours on the phone talking to machines and getting the run around from his bank, my boss ended up not getting his money back. To be honest, it surprised me that fraud occurred, since to me, Internet purchases seemed fairly safe. Within the last few months however, that sense of security seems to have evaporated.

.01 Common Frauds (return to index)

According to the Federal Trade Commission, there’s a growing number of ways people are
getting ripped off online:

.02 **Internet auctions:** (return to index)

The most common complaint of Internet fraud has come from making purchases on Internet auctions. While some people will simply not send you an item you have bid won and paid for, others are much more crafty. Some auctioneers will offer a large selection of items and accept only credit card or use of an escrow service. Once you’ve won an item, the seller will send you nothing, or a less valuable item. The best way to protect yourself in this instance, is to check the rating of the seller, as well as contact past buyers and make sure they were truly happy with their purchases. It is possible for an online seller to use fake accounts to drive up their rating, although they won’t be checking the email addresses of those fake accounts.

.03 **Credit Card Fraud:** (return to index)

Another common method of fraud comes from sites that must have the user “prove” they are over 18 by entering their credit card information. While this process is legal and is necessary on some sites, some sites use the “over 18” method as a front to take advantage of your credit card. Typically, these sites pose as adult sites. Really, the only way to protect yourself in this situation is to share credit card information only with sites you know and trust. In addition, make sure the letters “https” appear in your URL bar (for example, https://www.pacificu.edu) versus a regular “http.” Without the “s,” it means the server is not using Secure Sockets Layer, is not encrypted, and therefore not secure. Anyone with enough knowledge could potentially steal your credit card information.

.04 **Spam Fraud** (return to index)

Many Internet users get more than their share of spam on a daily basis. Many of these unsolicited emails offer ways to make money, deals on vacations, business opportunities that can’t go wrong, working from home, easy credit, free goods and more. 100% of these emails should be thrown away immediately. More often than not, they involve pyramid schemes and fake companies. Steer clear of these emails altogether. These scams prey on people who have limited knowledge of the Internet. People who have fallen for these frauds have been taken for thousands of dollars and had no idea what was happening to them until it was too late.

Also, while on the subject of email, never send or accept payment information via email. Invoices are okay to receive, but email is also not encrypted and not secure.

Besides staying away from common frauds, there are other ways to protect yourself incase something does happen.

.05 **Separate Bank account:** (return to index)
As noted in my story above, set up a separate account that is only used for Internet purchases. Keep only a minimal amount of money in the separate account, and move more money before you make a purchase. Make sure your bank has fraud protection as well. I spoke with my banker from US Bank, and he claims that US Bank prides themselves on fraud protection.

.06 Credit cards: (return to index)

Be sure to get a credit card that offers great fraud protection as well. VISA claims to have excellent fraud protection, or what’s called “Zero Liability: Complete Fraud Protection.” Essentially, the $50 cardholder liability for fraud has been lifted, and the 48-hour reporting period on fraud has been removed. In addition this protection works with debit and credit cards, which is almost unheard of. However, this does not apply to ATM transactions. Really, the Zero Liability protection is for people who have had their card number stolen and other people are using it online.

.07 Paypal and online accounts (return to index)

By setting up an online account, you keep your regular bank account hidden from potential frauds. Paypal offers a free, online, third party account. The standard paypal account can have funds transferred into it and checks can be mailed to you out of this account. You can set up the account to deposit and withdraw money into your regular bank account as well, but you must also go through a rigorous process to do so. Really, setting up Paypal is more useful, but you run the risk of someone accessing your funds if you set up your account this manner.

Even with all this protection, fraud does happen. Do what you can to protect yourself, but if fraud does happen to you, take care of it immediately. Contact your bank and credit card company. Overall, keep an eye on your bank accounts, watch for purchases you didn’t make, and remember that fraud has been going on long before the Internet was around. The only real way to protect yourself from fraud is to not use your card at all.

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35 THOUGHTS ON “secure internet transactions”

http://themarketingrefinery.com
on January 29, 2014 at 9:08 PM said:

Hi there, I read your new stuff on a regular basis.
Your humoristic style is witty, keep doing what you’re doing!
**wellness**
on **January 29, 2014 at 9:34 PM** said:

When someone writes an article he/she maintains the thought of a user in his/her mind that how a user can understand it. Therefore that’s why this paragraph is outstanding. Thanks!

**http://www.sangyo-kango.org/userinfo.php?uid=154910**
on **January 30, 2014 at 12:56 AM** said:

I like your design and truly feel of your internet site!

**no2 maximus Muscle supplement**
on **January 30, 2014 at 2:09 AM** said:

Really like the site and we have bookmarked it, make sure you insert much more content material.

**Easy way to make money online**
on **January 30, 2014 at 4:01 AM** said:

Generally I don’t read post on blogs, but I wish to say that this write-up very compelled me to check out and do it! Your writing taste has been surprised me. Thank you, quite great article.

**everify review**
on **January 30, 2014 at 4:08 AM** said:

Just desire to say your article is as amazing. The cleerness in your post is simply nice and i can assume you are an expert on this
subject.
Well with your permission let me to grab your RSS feed to keep updated with forthcoming post.

Thanks a million and please keep up the gratifying work.

business
on January 30, 2014 at 9:33 AM said:

It’s appropriate time to make some plans for the future and it’s time to be happy. I’ve read this post and if I could I desire to suggest you some interesting things or advice. Perhaps you can write next articles referring to this article. I wish to read more things about it!

fast ways to lose weight
on January 30, 2014 at 2:11 PM said:

You’ve got a great web site! Do you update this frequently? Do you mind if we talk about the site together with buddies on fb?

Tad Young
on January 30, 2014 at 6:15 PM said:

Thank you for the sensible critique. Me & my neighbor were just preparing to do some research about this. We got a grab a book from our area library but I think I learned more from this post. I am very glad to see such excellent info being shared freely out there.
What Is Liposlim
on January 30, 2014 at 7:04 PM said:

Great weeb page you’ve got! Keep updating.

Cyrus
on January 31, 2014 at 1:19 AM said:

When some one searches for his essential thing, so he/she wishes to be available that in detail, thus that thing is maintained over here.

Johnette
on January 31, 2014 at 2:24 AM said:

Nice website do you update typically?

business
on January 31, 2014 at 6:48 AM said:

I’m extremely inspired along with your writing talents as neatly as with the format for your blog. Is that this a paid subject or did you modify it yourself? Anyway stay up the nice quality writing, it’s rare to see a great weblog like this one nowadays..

best tankless water heater
on January 31, 2014 at 6:21 PM said:

Hello, i read your blog from time to time and i own a similar one and i was just wondering if you get a lot of spam comments? If so how do
you reduce it, any plugin or anything you can recommend?
I get so much lately it’s driving me mad so any help is very much appreciated.

best wrinkle creams
on February 2, 2014 at 10:24 AM said:

Great weblog, will you update frequently? Do you be upset if i were to share this to buddies on facebook or twitter?

buy grow xi
on February 2, 2014 at 1:40 PM said:

We’re a group of volunteers and opening a new scheme in our community.

Your web site provided us with valuable info to work on.
You’ve performed a formidable task and our whole neighborhood will probably be thankful to you.

best adjustable dumbbells
on February 3, 2014 at 7:05 AM said:

A motivating discussion is definitely worth comment. I believe that you need to write more about this subject, it may not be a taboo matter but typically people don’t talk about such issues. To the next! All the best!!

clothes steamer reviews
on February 3, 2014 at 6:47 PM said:

Have you ever considered writing an e-book or guest authoring on other blogs?
I have a blog based upon on the same information you discuss and would love to
have you share some stories/information. I know my audience would value your work. If you are even remotely interested, feel free to send me an e-mail.

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**best home gym**  
*on February 3, 2014 at 7:38 PM said:*

I constantly spent my half an hour to read this webpage’s posts daily along with a mug of coffee.

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**induction cooktop reviews**  
*on February 3, 2014 at 9:01 PM said:*

I really like your blog.. very nice colors & theme. Did you create this website yourself or did you hire someone to do it for you? Plz respond as I’m looking to design my own blog and would like to find out where u got this from. many thanks

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**best vacuum sealer**  
*on February 3, 2014 at 10:58 PM said:*

I every time used to study post in news papers but now as I am a user of internet so from now I am using net for posts, thanks to web.

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**scroll saw reviews**  
*on February 3, 2014 at 11:26 PM said:*

Hi, I do believe this is an excellent blog. I stumbledupon it 😊 I’m going to return once again since i have bookmarked it. Money and freedom is the best way to change, may you be rich and continue to help
other people.

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**best robotic pool cleaner**
on February 4, 2014 at 12:21 AM said:

Simply desire to say your article is as astounding. The clearness for your submit is just spectacular and i can assume you’re an expert on this subject. Well together with your permission allow me to grasp your RSS feed to keep up to date with drawing close post. Thanks a million and please continue the enjoyable work.

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**jig saw reviews**
on February 4, 2014 at 2:57 AM said:

It’s very simple to find out any topic on web as compared to textbooks, as I found this piece of writing at this web site.

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**table saw reviews**
on February 4, 2014 at 3:03 AM said:

Do you have a spam problem on this blog; I also am a blogger, and I was curious about your situation; we have developed some nice methods and we are looking to exchange strategies with others, be sure to shoot me an e-mail if interested.

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**rifle scope reviews**
on February 4, 2014 at 3:09 AM said:

When I initially left a comment I seem to have clicked the -Notify me when new comments are added- checkbox and from now on
each time a comment is added I get four emails with the same comment.
Is there an easy method you can remove me from that service?

Thank you!

Marissa  
on **February 4, 2014 at 12:45 PM** said:

This article will assist the internet visitors for building up new weblog or even a weblog firmly start to end.

http://www.erotop.lv/  
on **February 5, 2014 at 2:58 PM** said:

Just want to say your article is as astonishing. The cleanness to your put up is just nice and tha i could suppose you are an expert in this subject. Well together with your permission allow mme to cluch your feed to keep up tto dage with impending post.

Thanks a million andd please carry on the enjoyable work.

Mayra  
on **February 5, 2014 at 3:53 PM** said:

I do trust all the ideas you have presented for your post.

They’re really convincing and will definitely work.
Nonetheless, the posts are too brief for starters.
May juhst you please extend them a little from subsequent time?
Thanks for the post.
Kevin
on February 6, 2014 at 1:44 AM said:

Hi there to everybody, it's my first go too see of this weblog; this webpage carries amazing and actually fine material for readers.

christian outreach center
on February 6, 2014 at 1:58 AM said:

It's difficult to find educated people in this particular subject, however, you sound like you know what you're talking about! Thanks

www.wiki.ticxtots.com
on February 6, 2014 at 4:14 AM said:

Hello, its fastidious article regarding media print, we all be aware of media is a impressive source of data.

Terese
on February 6, 2014 at 5:01 AM said:

Thanks for finally writing about > Secure Internet Transactions | Interface < Liked it!

power with sales training books
on February 6, 2014 at 8:45 AM said:

Fastidious answers in return of this question
with firm arguments and telling everything concerning that.

erotop.lv

on February 6, 2014 at 10:02 AM said:

Fabulous, what a web site it is! This weblog gives valuable facts to us, keep it up.