UGANDA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

UGANDA COMMUNICATIONS UNIVERSAL SERVICE & ACCESS FUND

Online and electronic user safety and security

EIGHT TECH CONSULTS
People . Innovation . Technology . Services

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Outline

1. Identifying Online Threats
2. Creating Strong Passwords
3. Protecting personal data and privacy
4. Safe Browsing Habits

Identifying Online Threats

Identifying counterfeit devices.

To verify if your phone is a genuine device and not a fake, you can use the USSD code***#06#.** This code displays the IMEI (International Mobile Equipment Identity) number, which is a unique identifier f.or your phone

Identifying Online Threats

Recognizing common scams

- **Fake confirmation SMS:** You receive a fake SMS saying you've received money or made a payment often with links or prompts to click.
- **Phishing links:** Scammers send messages or WhatsApp links asking you to enter your mobile money PIN or personal info.
- **Impersonation scams:** Someone pretending to be a bank or mobile money agent asks for your PIN or verification code.

Identifying Online Threats

Recognizing common scams

- **"Please help" scams:** A friend or family member contacts you claiming urgent need for money but isn't who they say they are.
- **Unauthorized withdrawal notifications**: Alerts about transactions you didn't make, often followed by calls or messages to "verify" details.
- **Prize/lottery scams:** Messages saying you won a prize but need to pay fees or share personal info first.

Identifying Online Threats

Antivirus software and security updates.

Antivirus software and regular security updates are critical tools to protect your digital devices (computers, smartphones, tablets) from viruses, malware, hackers, and cyber threats.

Safe Browsing Habits

- Always check for “https://” in the URL (the “s” means secure)
- Look for a padlock icon 🔒 next to the website address
- Avoid sites with strange or misspelled URLs
- Avoid clicking on unknown pop-ups, suspicious links (especially in emails, WhatsApp, or Facebook)
- Never share your passwords
- Use passwords that are at least 8 characters long, Include letters, numbers, and symbols

The law and ethical considerations.

- The **Computer Misuse Act (2011)** is a law in Uganda that was created to regulate the use of computers and electronic systems. It aims to protect people and institutions from cybercrimes, misuse of data, and harmful behavior through digital technologies.

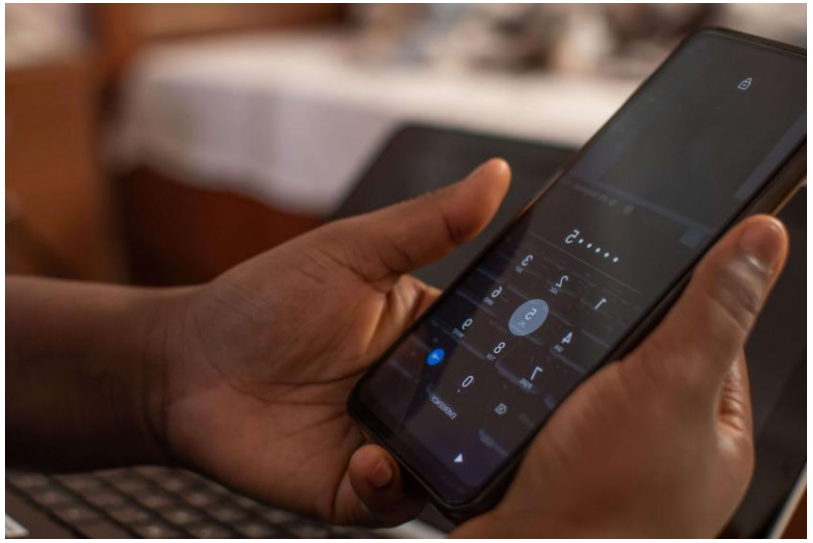
Key Offenses under the Act.

- Unauthorized access to computer systems (hacking)
- Accessing or intercepting data without permission
- Cyber harassment and offensive communication (insulting, threatening, or abusing others online)
- Publishing false or misleading information through digital means
- Sending malicious or spam messages using electronic systems
- Unauthorized modification or destruction of data

Penalties:

- Fines, imprisonment, or both depending on the seriousness of the offense
- For example, offensive communication can lead to up to 1 year in jail or a UGX 480,000 fine

Protecting Devices



- Password

- Pattern

- Finger scan

Protecting Devices

Screen lock options

1. Open your phone's Settings app.
2. Tap Security. If you don't find “Security,”: To get help, go to your phone manufacturer's support site.
3. To pick a kind of screen lock, tap Screen lock.
4. Tap the screen lock option you'd like to use.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions.

Protecting Devices

Virus

specific kinds of malware that harm files on an infected device in order to spread further

Protecting Devices

Anti-virus

scan for apps from unofficial third parties and check against a known list of compromised apps

Protecting Devices

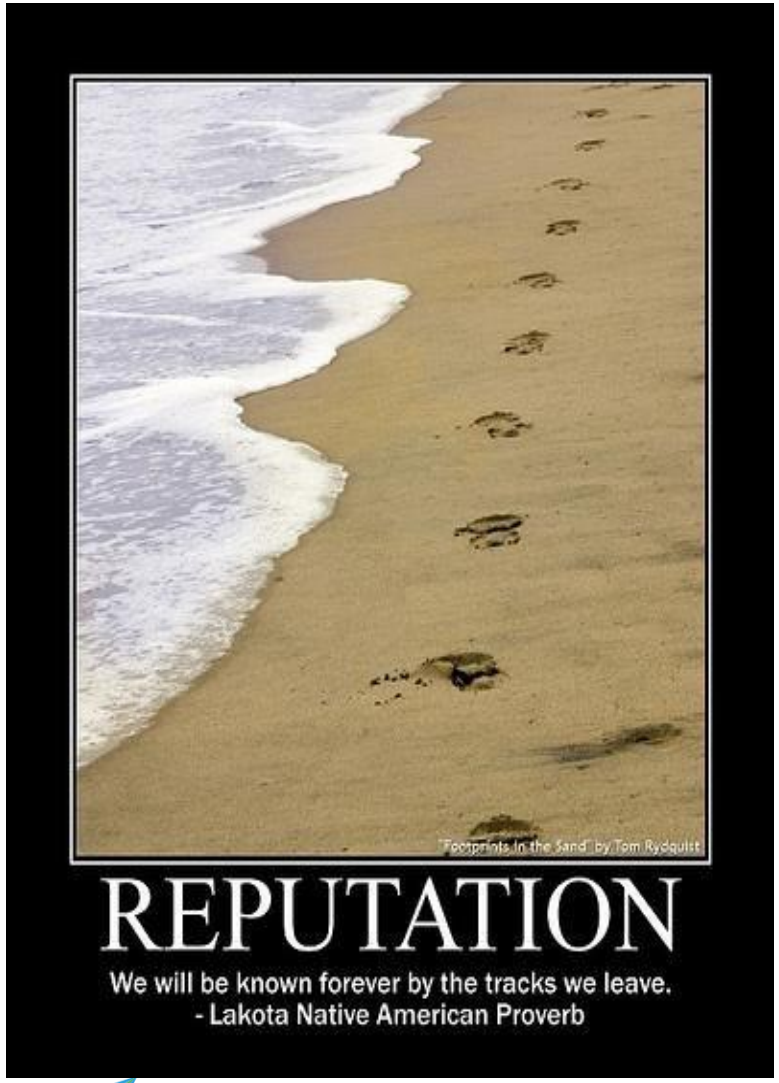
Use Secure Wi-Fi Networks:

When connecting to Wi-Fi networks, especially public ones, ensure they are secure and encrypted. Avoid accessing sensitive information or making online transactions on unsecured or unfamiliar networks.

Protect Person Data & Privacy

- WHO IS LOOKING AT YOU ONLINE.

Protect Well Being



The words we say, the pictures we post, the places we visit make up our digital "reputations.

Cyber Bulling And Harassment

- Some of your online “friends may not be who they say they are.
- Someone who tells you “she” is a female could be a man posing as a lady.

Wow!, you sound really cute and we have the same birthday! We must be destined to meet!

Well, I don’t mind admitting I was homecoming queen and maybe we could celebrate our birthdays together.

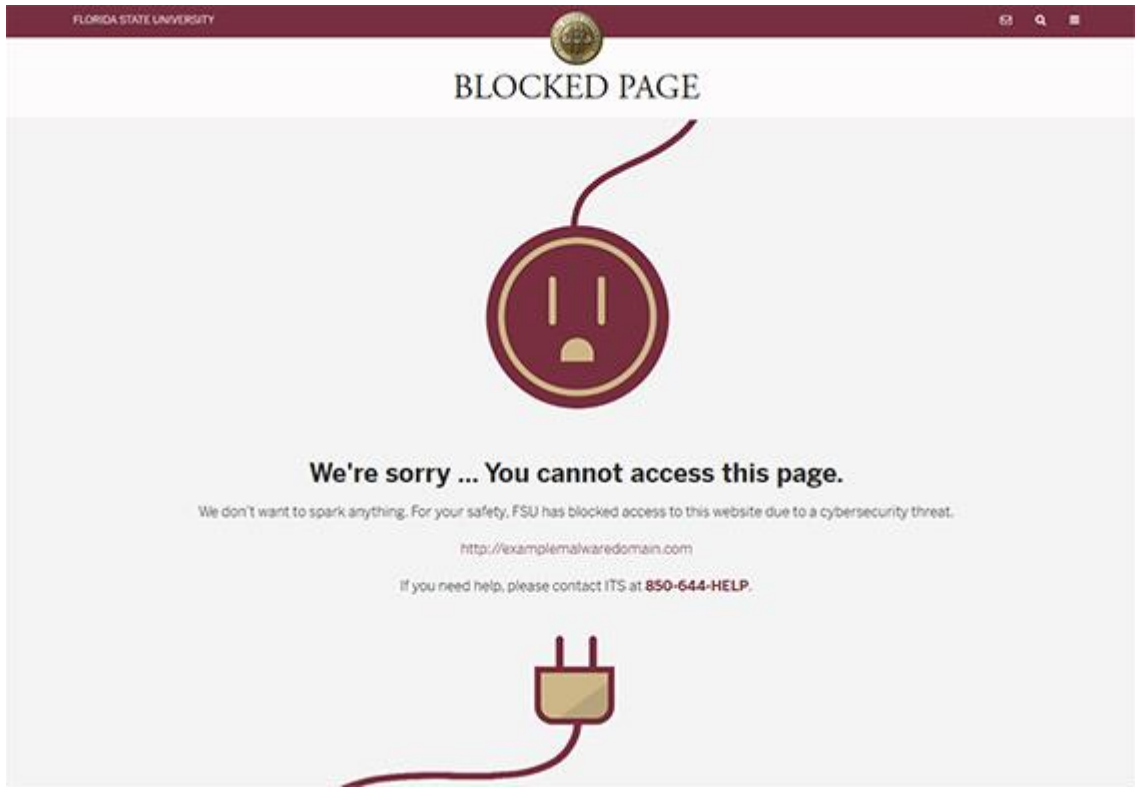
Online Safety Tips

Think before you post

- DO NOT post something that you would not want some people to read.

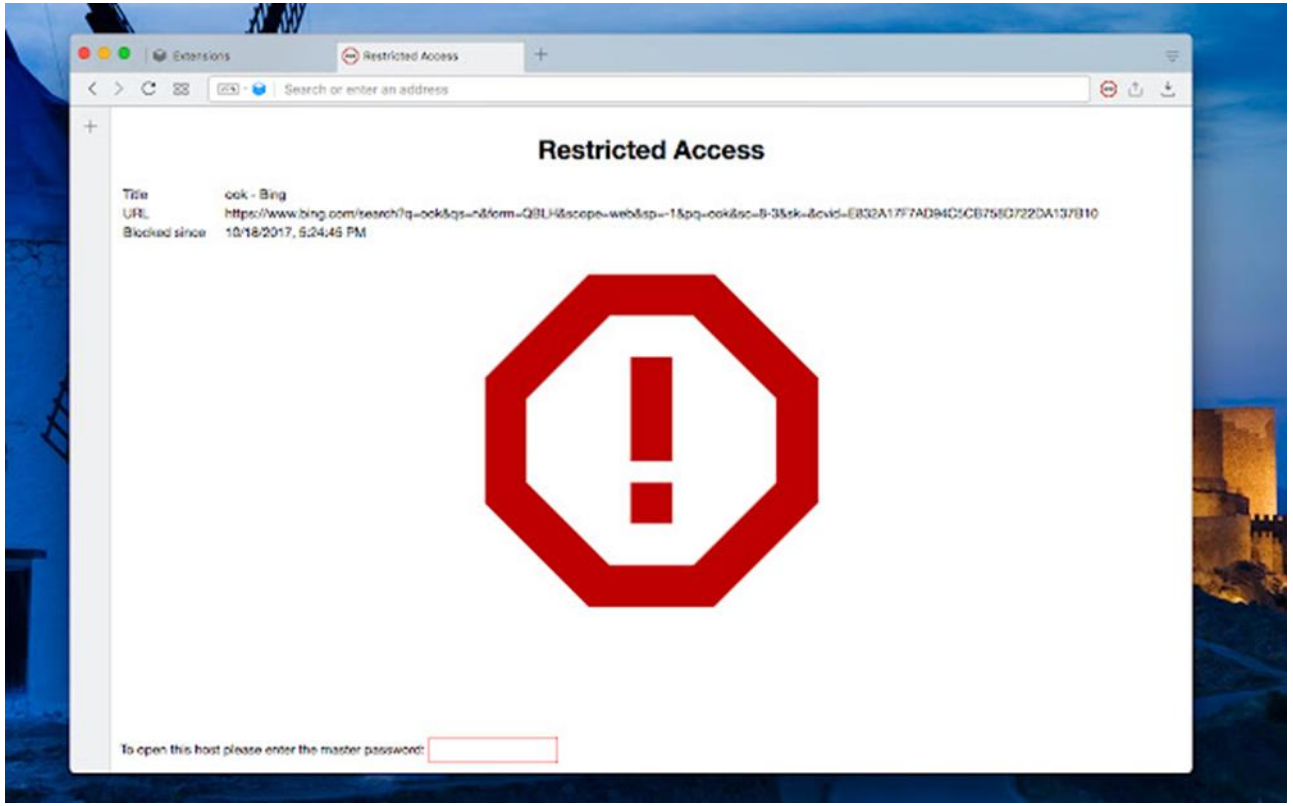
What You Can Do at Home

- Set up Internet filtering
  - Use your router or internet service provider's security app to configure child-safe internet filtering



What You Can Do at Home

- Block websites and keywords you don't want the child to access

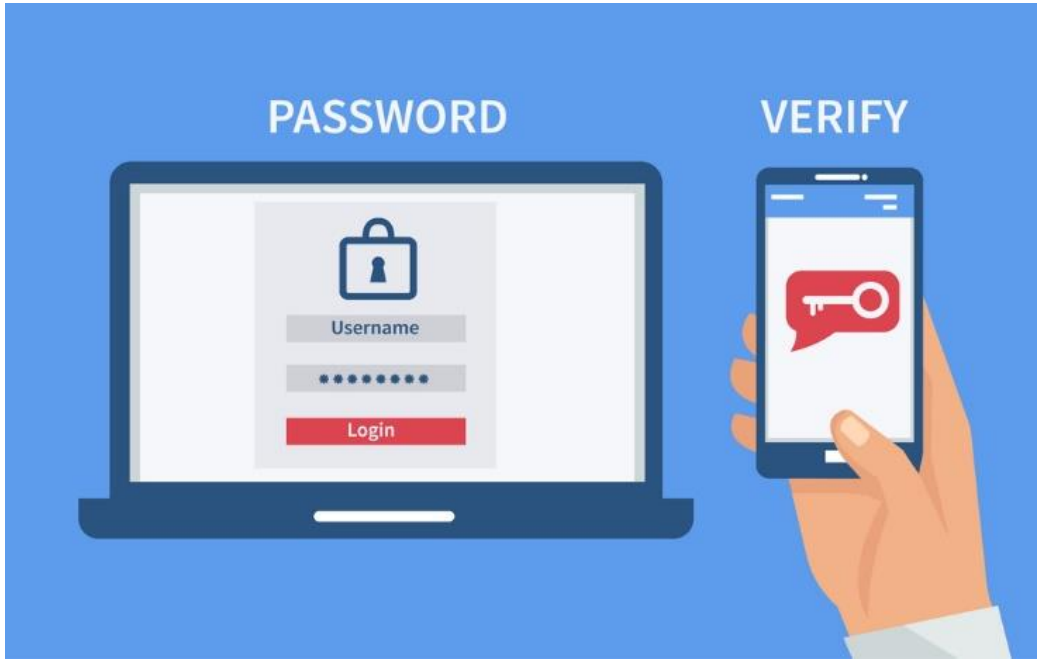


What You Can Do at Home

- Schedule when child can access the internet

Online Safety Tips

Use Two-Factor Authentication (2FA):



Online Safety Tips

Keep Software Updated

Online Safety Tips

Be Cautious of Phishing Attempts

Online Safety Tips

Be Mindful of Social Media Privacy

Online Safety Tips

Regularly Back Up Data

Online Safety Tips

Exercise Caution with Online Shopping

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Q&A

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