Some simple tips to protect your computer and data

Use operating systems provided by CERN’s IT department: they are securely configured and automatically updated for you.

Be careful while browsing the Web: don’t click on suspicious links and don’t install untrusted plug-ins.

Protect your passwords: never share them; beware of attempts to trick you into revealing your password (“phishing”); don’t reuse them (use different passwords for different purposes); do not type them on untrusted computers or Web sites.

Protect your private and home computers: use CERN antivirus; apply software updates; don’t install untrusted software.

Protect your files and data: restrict access to your documents and folders; follow the principle of least privilege.


Ask for advice: the Computer Security Team offers training courses, code reviews, Web and servers scanning etc., and is there to help you: contact Computer.Security@cern.ch or visit http://cern.ch/Computer.Security.

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