



# Essential Security Information

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Updated June 2013

## Overview

Below are listed the minimum security measures required from now on because of the increases in large scale internet crime and world-wide hacker activity.

As a member of our Oceania hosting community we ask that you read this document carefully and make all the changes as required.

## Critical Password Updates

At your earliest opportunity update all passwords for each one of your applications.

- Use twelve digit alpha-numeric combinations and include symbols wherever possible.  
“applications” includes and is not limited to:
  - Cpanel
  - email accounts
  - any CMS applications you are using like WordPress, Joomla or Soholaunch etc
  - Your sub-user accounts in any CMS you have installed and who have password access should also have their passwords updated.
- Have a different and unique password for each application as when hackers can crack one – all other logins with same or even similar passwords will be vulnerable

*Not fun - but necessary as part of required practices to keep websites safe and secure from hackers.*

## Remove all unused software from your hosting account now

It is vital that you go through your entire site and remove/delete any installed software you may have installed that is no longer used for your website. Use Uninstall Features in

Fantastico or Softaculous where-ever possible. Use the software developer's Support Pages for assistance as required.

### Update proprietary software installations and plugins

- Log in to your software developers' website to check for, and apply to your site, any current upgrades to the latest stable versions.
- In some cases upgrades may be applied directly from the Admin section of your software.
- Examples include WordPress, Joomla, SohoLaunch, OS Commerce, phpBB etc etc

### Update and/or Upgrade your PC Security

It is also recommend that you scan your local systems ( ie ALL computers and devices accessing the website files or email) to make sure they are virus free.

*Most account level compromises are due to insecure site software or malware/viruses on the local computer **stealing the username and password** for domain in question.*

*Ensuring that your site software is up to date, along with all plugins installed, and making sure that your local computers are virus free, using strong passwords **are key steps** to avoid account level hacks.*

# 101 Data Protection Tips: How to Keep Your Passwords, Financial & Personal Information Safe

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On Monday Sept 28 2015 Nate Lord posted a terrific set of Data Protection Tips.

[CLICK Here](#) to read all about how to keep your password, financial and personal information safe.