

Foiling IDENTITY THEFT



SHRED IT!

Not all identity theft starts online. Trash cans and recycling bins are still an easy way for thieves to access your personal information.



A personal shredder (\$20–\$30 for a basic model) is a small investment that makes a huge difference.

Not sure what to shred? Here are some examples:

- Addressed envelopes
- Bank statements
- ATM receipts
- Expired credit cards
- Cellphone bills
- Utility bills
- Old boarding passes
- Email printouts
- School schedules
- Old report cards
- Travel itineraries
- Old store credit cards
- Paycheck stubs
- Resumés
- Pre-approved credit card offers
- Receipts
- Canceled or voided checks
- Magazine address labels

IDENTITY THEFT AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Is your hometown and relationship status publicly listed on your Facebook profile?

Do your online usernames contain numbers relating to your age or the year you were born?

Can others tell when you're out of the house or out of town based on your Instagram feed?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, **you're making it easier for identity thieves** to take advantage of your information.

Vary your passwords, customize your privacy settings and think before you share that next status update or photo.

WHAT ARE THE WARNING SIGNS?

- Unexpected withdrawals or charges listed in your bank or credit card statements
- Errors in your credit report
- Missing mail
- Receiving unexpected bills and credit cards by mail
- Problems accessing your email or online banking accounts
- Calls from debt collectors regarding accounts that are not yours
- Issues with medical insurance or inaccuracies in your health records
- Receiving a notice from the government that multiple tax returns were filed in your name



Did you know there's an entire Twitter account devoted to retweeting photos that people have posted of their credit and debit cards?

No matter how excited you are about your new card, **never share it online.**