

NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY WEEK STARTS MAY 30

CYBER SECURITY
NATIONAL CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS WEEK
2011

National Cyber Security Week is an Australian Government initiative held annually to help Australians better understand cyber security risks and the simple steps they can take to protect themselves and their children online. Stephen Conroy, the Minister for Communication, together with Robert McLelland, the Attorney-General, will jointly launch the Awareness Week on 30 May.

The Awareness Week is held in partnership with industry, the community sector and all levels of government, to promote awareness through online activities and events that are held across the country.

Throughout Australia, libraries support the Awareness Week by displaying and distributing promotional material, such as postcards and bookmarks, and by holding local level events to educate their patrons about the practical steps they can take to better protect themselves online.

Libraries have a great capacity to reach their patrons and deliver important messages about keeping themselves, their families and their businesses safe and secure online. These messages include the need to install and regularly update security software and to turn on the updates for all their software, to be careful about opening links and attachments, particularly in emails and social network sites, to take steps to keep their information private, including taking care when posting photos online or giving other personal or financial information online, and to use strong passwords, changing them at least twice a year.

The Australian Government is working towards helping Australians understand that no matter where they are or what they are doing, they need to protect themselves online – whether they are on their home computer or laptop, iPad, smartphone, or even their gaming console. They need to use safe and secure online practices.

There are many tools and information sources advising Australians how to stay safe and secure online, including the *Stay Smart Online Top Tips*, the *Budd:e E-security Education Package* for primary and secondary schools, the Government's Cyber Safety Help Button and the free *Stay Smart Online Alert Service*. All of these tools along with more detailed information can be found on the Stay Smart Online website at www.staysmartonline.gov.au.

Libraries interested in displaying or distributing material can order these from the Awareness Week tab on the Stay Smart Online website (www.staysmartonline.gov.au/awareness_week) and are invited to seek support for local and regional events by contacting the Department of Broadband, Communication and the Digital Economy at awarenessweek@dbcde.gov.au.

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