

Internet Surveillance

In our ongoing commitment to your financial well-being, we strive to provide you with the latest information and tools to safeguard your privacy online. With the evolving landscape of internet surveillance, it's crucial to stay proactive in protecting your personal information from threats.

What is internet surveillance?

Internet surveillance is the monitoring of your online activity. Your data may be tracked by government agencies, corporations, cybercriminals, internet service providers, even popular search engines and social media platforms. Each has distinct motives for monitoring.

While government surveillance often targets criminal activities, companies (including search engines and social media) focus on data harvesting for consumer insights and targeted advertising. Cybercriminals or hackers, on the other hand, seek data for fraudulent activities like identity theft.

Protecting your privacy

From using secure communication channels to adopting privacy-focused browsing habits, every action contributes to protecting your data in an increasingly surveilled environment. To help you safeguard your information, here are some practical steps you can take:

- 1. Keep your web browser up to date.
- 2. Check your web browser privacy settings and make sure you've got them set up as securely as you can.
- 3. Stop visiting websites without HTTPS at the beginning of the URL.
- 4. Be careful downloading files or applications from the internet.
- 5. Clear your browser history and cookies regularly.
- 6. Block ads whenever you can.
- 7. Don't use the password saving feature in your browser.
- 8. Try an alternative search engine, one that is more privacy-focused.
- 9. Create strong passwords and enable two-factor authentication whenever you can.
- 10. Try using a VPN (a virtual private network) to encrypt your internet connection, mask your IP address and ensure your online privacy.

As always, when using additional software, browsers, extensions or VPNs do your research and find a reputable company to safeguard your information.

For additional security information, you can visitOak Bank's Security Information on our website.



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