

# IDENTITY THEFT & FRAUD

Identity theft is when somebody uses your name and personal details to steal money from you or to commit another crime.



Identity theft is the fastest growing type of crime in the UK.

Internet fraud is a crime in which somebody tricks somebody else out of money or property. Examples include taking payment for items that don't exist and websites that steal your payment information.

## Tips for avoiding online crime:



### Keep your passwords secure

Change passwords regularly, don't make them easy to guess, don't write them down and don't tell anybody what they are!



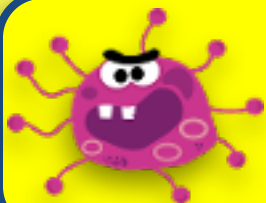
### Don't trust all messages you receive

Beware of emails and other messages asking for personal details or telling you that you've won something - these are often frauds.



### Check websites are reliable

Before buying something from a website or providing any of your details, do your research. Reviews show if a website can be trusted.



### Virus-proof yourself

Keep your computer up to date with antivirus and spyware software to reduce the risk of your details being stolen.

