

# Foiling IDENTITY THEFT

- IT'S A -  
**MONEY  
THING®**

## 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
- Paycheque stubs
- Resumés
- Pre-approved credit card offers
- Receipts
- Cancelled or voided cheques
- 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.**

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