

Australians need to be more careful about cyber security online.



Cyber security means protecting yourself when you use the internet.

It means having strong passwords, multi-factor authentication and software updates.

This document will explain why cyber security is important. It helps to protect you from cyber attacks.



Cyber attacks are when someone hacks into your social media, or maybe into your bank account.

Cyber attacks can also involve someone stealing your personal information, such as:

- Your home address
- Your photos
- Your passwords

The government wants Australians to be safe while online.



The government started an awareness campaign to tell people how to be safe online.

It is called “Act Now Stay Secure.”

The awareness campaign is a way to show why it is important to protect yourself from cyber attacks.



The government wants to share **three simple ways to stay safe from cyber attacks**.

- **strong passwords**
- **multi-factor authentication**
- **software updates**

The rest of this document will explain why these actions help to keep you safe online.

Multi-factor Authentication

It sounds complicated, but we can explain why it's important.

Multi-factor authentication double checks who's logging in.

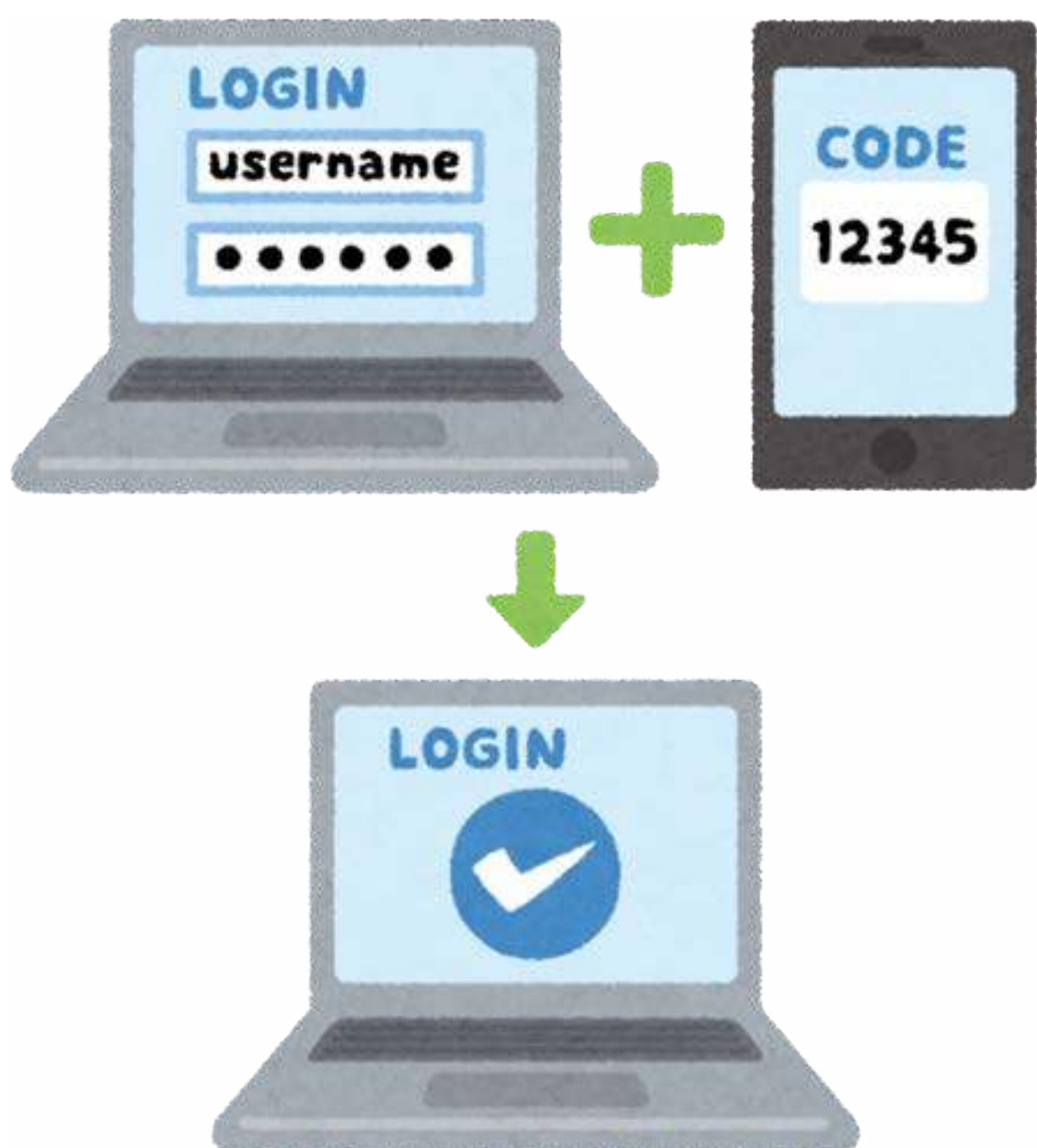


Multi-factor authentication works like a treasure chest with TWO locks.

Even when you have one key, the chest is still locked. You need two different keys to open it up!

Some examples of multi-factor authentication are:

- Accounts that need a password AND a security question
- Accounts that need a password AND a 4-digit code sent to your phone



When a website asks you to set up multi-factor authentication

- **You should do it right away**
- **or set it up in your settings**

If you are confused, you can ask someone to help you set up multi-factor authentication.

Software Updates



Software updates are new versions of programs and apps. They help programs run better.

When apps get old, they are easier for scammers to break into.

Updating your apps means it is harder for scammers to access your information!

When your device tells you about app updates:



- You should install them right away
- You should turn on automatic updates
- you should turn on notifications for new updates

Strong passwords

A password keeps your information private.

You probably have passwords on your bank account or email account.



Creating a strong password is very important. A strong password is one that is hard for scammers to guess.

A strong password:

- **Has over 14 letters**
- **Has special symbols (such as @ or %)**
- **Has numbers**
- **Has uppercase letters**

Remember not to use the same password for every website and app that you use!



Don't tell other people your password.

If you are worried that you have been scammed, make sure you change your password.