



Australian Government

Cyber Security Action Month

1–31 OCTOBER

**TAKE A
SECOND.**

**STAY
SECURE.**

Cyber Security Action Month

Take a second. Stay secure. is the theme for Cyber Security Action Month 2026.

It reflects a simple idea: the small choices we make every day - at work, at home, and in our communities - play an important role in keeping us secure online.

Cyber security doesn't need to be complex or time-consuming. Often, it's about taking a moment to pause and make a safer choice. A safer choice before clicking a link, sharing information, creating a password, or responding to an unexpected request.

The Department of Home Affairs is hosting the Cyber Security Action Month campaign at www.nationalcybersecurity.gov.au/cybermonth.

You can promote Cyber Security Action Month in your organisation by downloading the resources, including posters, web and email banners and social media tiles.

Cyber security is everyone's responsibility. We can all do our part to ensure Australians stay secure online by sharing Cyber Security Action Month resources this October.

Campaign objectives

Build awareness of Cyber Security Action Month

Collectively increase national awareness of Cyber Security Action Month by promoting its purpose, timing and importance across our networks, helping to reach diverse audiences and strengthen recognition across Australia.

Drive engagement with campaign resources

Support strong uptake of campaign materials by directing audiences to, and actively using, the central landing page as the single source of truth for information, tools and resources, ensuring consistent and coordinated use across stakeholder communications.

Consistency and unity of campaign messaging

Adopt and use the provided campaign messaging to deliver a clear, consistent narrative for Cyber Security Action Month across all communications.

Encourage adoption of cyber-secure behaviours and mindset

Help Australians stay secure online by encouraging Australians to pause, think differently about cyber security, and take practical steps to stay secure online.

Key messages - overarching

October is Cyber Security Action Month, an annual opportunity for Australians to actively think about cyber security and take action in building cyber safe behaviours into their everyday routines.

The theme for Cyber Security Action Month 2026 is ***Take a second. Stay secure.*** The theme reflects the simple idea of the small choices we make every day - at work, at home, and in our communities - play an important role in keeping us secure online.

You don't need to be a cyber expert to stay secure. Improving cyber security doesn't need to be complex or time-consuming. Small, simple actions built into everyday routines can make a real difference.

Cyber threats often rely on speed and distraction. Taking a second before responding or clicking helps Australians recognise risks, make safer choices online and stay in control.

Cyber secure behaviour looks different for everyone. Take a second to identify the steps that are needed to strengthen your online safety.

Key messages - secondary

The following secondary messages outline practical actions that align with Take a second. Stay secure. Agencies and partners should use key messages flexibly. Limit secondary messaging to one or two messages throughout the month, selecting those most relevant to your audience, channel and context, while maintaining a consistent national narrative.

Apply updates

Keep devices, operating systems and apps updated to protect against known security risks.

Perform regular backups

Regular backups help protect data and reduce impacts if something goes wrong.

Turn on multi-factor authentication for online services

Adding an extra step to sign-ins makes it harder for others to access your accounts.

Learn to recognise scams & report them

Know the signs of a scam so you can avoid and report them. This helps protect yourself and others.

Set long unique passphrases

Long, unique, passphrases help keep accounts secure and reduce the chance of compromise.

Know the threats

Knowing common cyber threats helps you spot them and respond appropriately.

Check and manage privacy settings

Reviewing privacy settings helps you understand and control who can see and access your private information.

Think before you share on socials

Think twice before sharing on social media. Pausing before sharing lets you decide if you really need to share that information online.

Draft social copy [no secondary actions]

Longer caption

October is Cyber Security Action Month. A time to pause and think differently about how we stay secure online. This year's theme, Take a second. Stay secure. reminds us that small, everyday choices can make a meaningful difference.

Cyber threats often rely on speed and distraction, but taking just a moment before you click, share or respond can help you recognise risks and stay in control.

Cyber security is everyone's responsibility - at work, at home and in the community. You don't need to be an expert. Simple, practical actions built into your daily routine can go a long way in keeping you and others safe.

Take a second to act.

Visit [\[link\]](#) for practical advice and tools.

Shorter caption

Take a second. Stay secure.

It only takes a moment to make a safer choice online. This Cyber Security Action Month, pause, think, and take a simple step to protect yourself and others.

Visit [\[link\]](#) to get started.

Channels to tag

Instagram: [@aucyberseccoord](#)

LinkedIn: [@aucyberseccoord](#)

X: [@aucyberseccoord](#)

Hashtag: **#CyberMonth2026**

Draft social copy [example secondary actions]

Longer caption

October is Cyber Security Action Month. A time to pause and think differently about how we stay secure online. This year's theme, Take a second. Stay secure. reminds us that small, everyday choices can make a meaningful difference.

Start with one simple step to lift your cyber security such as **[insert action e.g. turning on multi-factor authentication for online services]**. Small actions like this can help protect you and the people around you.

Cyber security is everyone's responsibility at work, at home and in the community. You don't need to be an expert. Simple, practical actions built into your daily routine can go a long way in keeping you and others safe.

Take a second to act.

Visit [\[link\]](#) for practical advice and tools.

Shorter caption

Take a second. Stay secure.

It only takes a moment to make a safer choice online. This Cyber Security Action Month, pause, think, and take a simple step by **[insert action e.g. turning on multi-factor authentication for online services]** to help you stay secure online.

Visit [\[link\]](#) to get started.

Channels to tag

Instagram: [@aucyberseccoord](#)

LinkedIn: [@aucyberseccoord](#)

X: [@aucyberseccoord](#)

Hashtag: **#CyberMonth2026**

Draft email copy [long form]

It only takes a second to make a safer choice online.

October is Cyber Security Action Month, a chance to pause and think differently about how we stay secure in our everyday lives. Whether it's checking a message, clicking a link or sharing something online, those small moments all add up.

This year's theme, Take a second. Stay secure., highlights how cyber threats often rely on speed and distraction. Taking a moment to stop and think can help you spot something unusual, avoid potential risks and stay in control.

OPTIONAL: Start with one simple step: [insert action]. Small actions like this can help protect your information, your devices and the people around you.

Cyber security is something we all share responsibility for. Staying secure online does not need to be complicated or time consuming. You do not need to be a cyber expert. Simple actions, built into your daily routine, can make a real difference in protecting your information, your devices and the people around you.

This Cyber Security Action Month, take a moment to pause, make a safer choice, and take a simple step to strengthen your online security.

Visit [\[link\]](#) for practical advice, tools and tips you can start using today.

Draft email copy [short form and snippet]

Short form

It only takes a second to make a safer choice online.

This Cyber Security Action Month, take a moment to pause before you click, share or respond. Small actions can help you avoid risks and stay secure.

You do not need to be an expert to improve your cyber security. Simple, everyday steps can make a big difference.

Visit [\[link\]](#) to explore tips and tools to help you get started.

Snippet

Take a second. Stay secure.

A quick pause can help you make a safer choice online.

Visit [\[link\]](#) to learn more.

Draft internal copy

October is Cyber Security Action Month - a reminder that staying secure online isn't just an IT issue. It's something we all play a part in every day.

This year's theme, **Take a second. Stay secure.**, is about the small moments that matter.

Cyber threats often rely on rushing or catching people off guard. Taking a second to pause before clicking, sharing or responding can make a real difference.

Why it matters

Whether you're at work or at home, your everyday actions help protect not just your own information, but our organisation and the broader community.

The good news is you don't need to be a cyber expert. Simple habits, built into your daily routine, can go a long way in keeping things secure.

What you can do

Throughout October, we'll be sharing simple tips and resources to help you stay secure online. As you go about your day, take a moment to:

[Insert your selected secondary messages]

- Pause before clicking on links or attachments
- Think about what you're sharing online
- Take a simple step to improve your security.

Get involved

You'll see resources and messages you can also share with your networks. By reinforcing these habits at work and at home, we can all help create a safer online environment.

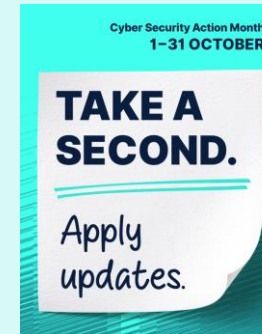
Take a second to act.

Visit [\[link\]](#) for practical tips and tools.

Available resources

www.nationalcybersecurity.gov.au/cybermonth hosts a range of communication resources you can use throughout Cyber Security Action Month.

Social media: X8 secondary actions, hero slide, 9:16/4:5 ratio. Aus Gov branded and no branding.



Poster: Aus Gov branded and no branding.



Lock screen



Teams background



Promo box



**Cyber Security Action Month
1-31 OCTOBER**



Email banner & email signature

Recommended links

www.nationalcybersecurity.gov.au/cybermonth

provides links to additional tools, resources and information. These are listed provided below.

Check your cyber safety

Cyber.gov.au - How cyber secure are you? [Link](#)

Cyber.gov.au – Cyber Health Check Tool [Link](#)

Passwords

Cyber.gov.au – Think you know how to make a secure passphrase? [Link](#)

Scams

Scamwatch.gov.au – Help spot / avoid scams [Link](#)

Scamwatch.gov.au – Types of scams [Link](#)

Cyber help

Report a cybercrime / cyber incident: [ReportCyber](#)

Report a scam: [ScamWatch](#)

Report online harm: [eSafety Report](#)

More tools and guidance

Cyber.gov.au – Learn the basics [Link](#)

Actnowstaysecure.gov.au - Oversharing Risk Indicator [Link](#)

Actnowstaysecure.gov.au – Translated resources on cyber safe behaviours [Link](#)

Cyber.gov.au – Translated guides on cyber info [Link](#)

Act Now Stay Secure – First Nations resources [Link](#)

AFP – ClickFit resources [Link](#)