

Confessions of a Cyber Thief

One of America's most
notorious crooks gives up his
darkest secrets ...



How I Rip People Off

After years as a successful cyber thief, the FBI finally caught me. As part of my plea bargain, I've agreed to share my most diabolical methods for scamming unsuspecting users. Use this information to protect yourself.

1. Public Wi-Fi — a crook's pot of gold

It's amazing how many people conduct financial transactions or share personal information on public Wi-Fi hot spots. The information is so easy to intercept — it's like you're asking me to rob you! Complete your transactions at home on a secure Wi-Fi system.

2. Phishing scams — easy money

I contact you by phone or email pretending to be your financial institution, asking for your account number and personal information. You hear your financial institution name or see the fake logo and forget that your financial institution would never ask for such things. Don't share account numbers, passwords or personal information over the phone or through email.

3. Weak passwords — might as well write me a check

Think your dog's name is hard to figure out? Guess again. Your street address? Ka-ching! Do you jot down your passwords on a sticky note? Ha! I love ripping off co-workers! Use passwords that combine numbers, letters and symbols. Don't write them down — memorize them.

4. ATMs — like taking candy from a baby

I install a card reader over the real one on an ATM, steal the information when you swipe your debit card and sell it. If anybody ever gave the thing a jiggle I'd be out of business. But nobody does. Check the card reader. You'll know right away if it's fake.

5. Social networks — I'll play you like a fiddle

Remember me? I'm your long, lost friend from high school. I convince you to friend me, and pretty soon you're sharing your most intimate secrets — including everything I need to rip you off. Never share sensitive information on social network sites — not even in private messages.

Keep this information close — and share it with the people you care about.



Protect yourself from fraud with the SHAZAM BOLT\$ mobile app. Receive alerts when your debit card is used so you can quickly detect unauthorized or fraudulent activity.

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