

Identity theft happens when someone uses your personal information, without your knowledge, to commit fraud or other crimes. If your identity is stolen, it can take years to clear your good name. To learn more about protecting yourself from this threat, visit OklahomaMoneyMatters.org to listen to the Identity Theft podcast, then complete this worksheet.

1. What types of personal information are valuable to an identity thief? _____

2. Social media sites are great for connecting with friends and family, but they're also where identity thieves go to get personal information. What information should you avoid sharing online? _____

3. Why should you be wary of clicking on links within emails? _____

4. When shopping online, what should you look for that indicates the website is secure? _____

5. What tips did Oklahoma Money Matters suggest for creating secure passwords? _____

6. Why should you always balance your bank and credit card statements as soon as you receive them? _____

7. What's the best way to dispose of items like unused deposit slips and ATM receipts? _____



Money Talks: Identity Theft

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1. What types of personal information are valuable to an identity thief? *Answers may vary.*
Examples below:
Full name, birth date, Social Security number, home address, account numbers.
2. Social media sites are great for connecting with friends and family, but they're also where identity thieves go to get personal information. What information should you avoid sharing online?
Birth date, address or even your mother's maiden name.
3. Why should you be wary of clicking on links within emails?
Spam emails and fake websites can be manipulated to look like the real thing. Clicking on a link in an unsolicited email could lead to a site that can be used to steal your identity.
4. When shopping online, what should you look for that indicates the website is secure?
Make sure the web address starts with https.
5. What tips did Oklahoma Money Matters suggest for creating secure passwords?
Don't use obvious information like your birth date, name or phone number. Use a mix of characters and numbers that is hard to crack.
6. Why should you always balance your bank and credit card statements as soon as you receive them?
If you don't regularly review your statements, you might let identity theft go undetected.
7. What's the best way to dispose of items like unused deposit slips and ATM receipts?
Shred them with a cross-cut paper shredder.

