

Dear valued customer,

A strong password protects your online accounts and data from hackers. This guide provides essential tips to create strong passwords to act as your first line of defence to minimise the risk of online threats and keep your information safe.

# **ENABLE MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION** (MFA) TO PROTECT YOUR DATA

Using MFA adds an extra layer of security, making it much harder for hackers to access your account. Below are 3 different options you can use:



# Something you know

Password, PIN, pattern lock only you know



# Something you have

Security token, One-Time PIN (OTP), smart cards or mobile device



# Something you are

Fingerprint, facial or voice recognition

# **KEEP YOUR PASSWORDS PRIVATE**

Refrain from sharing your passwords with friends, family, and websites. Legitimate companies will not ask for your passwords in an email, text, or app.

# **USE STRONG PASSWORDS**

The more complex your password is, the harder it is for hackers to guess what it is. Here's how to create a strong password:



Ensure that your password is at least 12 characters long.
The longer your password is, the stronger your line of defence is.



Use a variety of characters in your password [E.g., uppercase (big <u>A</u>), lowercase letters (small <u>a</u>), numbers (123), and symbols (@, #, \$)]. Avoid using the same characters at the same time (eg: 1111).



 Refrain from using actual words from a dictionary, your username or personal information that anyone could guess.

# **CHECK THE STRENGTH OF YOUR PASSWORDS**

The Cyber Security Agency of Singapore (CSA) has a free <u>tool</u> that rates how strong your password is. It also indicates how long it would take for someone to crack your password.

# **KEEPING YOUR INFORMATION SAFE**

By following the tips above, you can significantly reduce the risk of hackers accessing your personal accounts and information. Secure your passwords and protect your data by taking action today!

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