Maintaining Online Safety when Playing Online Games by EugeneYeng

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Online security is something that is at the forefront of the tech industryâ€™s collective mind, as we see identity theft escalating on a global scale. Whether you are seeing headlines in the newspaper or on the internet, there is no doubt that computer security is paramount. This should not deter you from using specific online platforms like stick games or other gaming providers, and by taking a few simple steps, you can ensure that your computer and your personal information remain protected.

Installing Anti-Virus Software

There are a few large organizations that provide purchasable anti-virus software that updates on its own to ensure that youâ€™re staying protected from even the most recent concoctions. Some of these can be expensive, but the end result is peace of mind, and itâ€™s difficult to put a price on that. However, if funds are tight, there are always free, downloadable virus-protection suites that can help keep you safe from prying digital eyes. Research your options and select the programs that seem to offer the widest range of overall security.

Interaction With Game Creators

Many stick games websites will ask for your email address. This is simply to include you in their newsletters or ad campaigns that can help keep you informed regarding upcoming releases or platform changes. However, remember that you should never give your password to anyone, and it isnâ€™t required for their purposes. If a website is making you uneasy with the amount of information they are asking for, simply find another. Never discount asking questions, either. There will usually be a â€œContact Usâ€• tab that will allow you to email the site administrators. Do not be surprised if they ask for feedback regarding your experience, though, as this is how they determine how effective their creations are with online gamers.

Interactions With Other Gamers

One thing that concerns parents more than anything when their children are online, involves internet predators. These individuals will do their best to identify innocence and target it. Always take note of any games that your children are playing online. Most of the free online games you find will be stick games or similar offerings, which generally are single-player titles. In this case, there are no other gamers in contact with your child. If you have any questions, play the game yourself to determine whether or not you feel comfortable. Also, do not hesitate to contact the website administrator â€“ they can help clear up any concerns.

Keep Private Information Private

When you are playing free online games, remember the key component: theyâ€™re free! If someone claiming that they are part of the siteâ€™s staff begins asking for banking information, contact the website immediately and DO NOT give them this information. You are likely being â€œphishedâ€• for information, which is a common tactic for identity thieves. Websites that host free stick games seldom require â€œregistration feesâ€•, so this is not a common practice.

Free online games are popular, but because of this increased visibility, many online criminals are using them as a launching point to target unsuspecting patrons. Protect yourself with the right anti-virus software and always be aware of who is asking for specific information. Game creators always enjoy learning who is playing their games, but they should never pursue personal information that

could leave you open to identity theft. The next time you are online playing stick games, remember that it is meant to be fun and anything that seems invasive should be immediately addressed. If you keep the previous points in mind, you will enjoy a safe online gaming experience, and you will never fall victim to those with ulterior motives.

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