

Griffin Technology

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Poll: 69% worry about security

Yet most fail to change passwords

A recent survey found that 69% of U.S. adults are concerned about security when using Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other popular social networks. Yet only 33% bothered to take a very simple, basic step to reduce their risk: regularly change their account log-on password.

The study, commissioned by anti-virus firm ESET, was conducted online by Harris Interactive from May 31 to June 2.

The survey also revealed that 1-in-10 social-network users have experienced an unknown party gaining unauthorized access to their account to spread malicious links and comments.

"This is particularly alarming since unauthorized access can threaten account owners' cyber-security as well as that of their contacts," says Randy Abrams, ESET's director of technical education. "We've seen countless examples, including recent scams related to the death of Osama bin Laden."

Abrams says you can easily improve security for yourself and your online contacts by following a few guidelines with respect to passwords.

Do not use the same password for your multiple online services. Randomize your passwords, and generally take the time to make it difficult for the bad guys to triangulate you.



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