Reality Check @ NU
November 1, 2011
Today’s Agenda

• P2P and Piracy
• Safe and Secure Passwords
• Software Updates
• Phishing Scams
• Questions
Reality Check #1 - P2P and Piracy

• Myth
  o Sharing copyrighted material has no consequences!

• Reality
  o $150,000 fines and in extreme cases jail time
Reality Check #1 - P2P and Piracy

• Other Associated Dangers
  o Viruses
  o Malware

• NU-BAYU
  o Northwestern's tracking system
  o Meant to educate and increase awareness

• Common Programs / Protocols
  o Bittorrent
  o Limewire
  o Usenet
Reality Check #1 - P2P and Piracy

- Recommended Substitutes
  - Music
    - Pandora
    - Youtube
    - Grooveshark
  - Movies & TV
    - Hulu
    - Netflix
    - Amazon
• Myth
  o Easy to remember passwords are the best option!
• Reality
  o If your password is that easy to remember, it's even easier to hack
Reality Check #2 - Safe and Secure Passwords

• Associated Dangers
  o Personal Data
  o Network Effect
    ▪ You can affect others as well!

• NU-Validate
  o Password changes are once a year - Make them count!
    ▪ If at any time you feel unsafe - change it!
Reality Check #2 - Safe and Secure Passwords

• **Common Mistakes**
  - Using dictionary words
  - No capitalization
  - Numbers in a sequence (i.e., 123)

• **Simple Tips**
  - Use special characters (i.e., !)
  - Replace letters with numbers (i.e. Schuel -> Shu3I)
Reality Check #2 - Safe and Secure Passwords

• Tips and Tricks
  o General Knowledge
    ▪ Forbes - http://onforb.es/aKiWhO
    ▪ Lifehacker - http://lifehac.kr/dfcYfv
  o Suggestions
Reality Check #3 - Software Updates

• Myth
  o Software updates are annoying and take a long time to download/install so it's not worth it.

• Reality
  o Software updates include security updates to protect you from recently-discovered threats.
Reality Check #3 - Software Updates

• Associated Dangers
  o Viruses/Malware
  o Lack of compatibility/performance

• Programs that you should always keep updated (auto-update)
  o Anti-virus / Malware
  o Operating System (Mac OSX / Windows)
  o Microsoft Office / iWork
  o iTunes / Adobe / JAVA

• Most of these programs can be set to auto-update
Reality Check #3 - Software Updates

• **BEWARE!** Be very cautious when updating manually (make sure that the update is from a genuine Web site and run a virus scan)
• If you are using the University-provided security software, follow the instructions on the NUIT Web site on how to keep it current:
  - [Windows](#)
  - [Mac](#)
Reality Check #4 - Phishing

• Myth
  o The link in the email goes to my bank, links don't lie.

• Reality
  o Phishing scams often use trustworthy names and fake links to trick you into clicking and sharing your personal information.
Reality Check #4 - Phishing

• Associated Dangers
  o Lose control over personal accounts (bank, email, university)
  o Viruses / Malware

• NEVER GIVE OUT PERSONAL INFORMATION, especially NetID passwords
  o NU will NEVER ask you to provide your NetID password to us (or any other password to university accounts).

• Phishing comes in all forms and can be hard to spot
Reality Check #4 - Phishing

• Don't get reeled in by phishing attempts:
  o NEVER reply to unsolicited e-mail asking for personal information
  o Compare suspicious e-mails to the list of recent phishing attempts on the NUIT Web site
  o DO NOT click on links directly from an e-mail
  o Be wary of e-mails with poor grammar or multiple spelling errors
• If you believe you have responded to a phishing email, immediately change your NetID password and call the NUIT Support Center to report the message
Reality Check #4 - Phishing

• If you would like to learn more about phishing, please visit the NUIT Web site on phishing:
  • [http://www.it.northwestern.edu/security/phishing/index.html](http://www.it.northwestern.edu/security/phishing/index.html)

• Be sure to check out the [SonicWALL Online Phishing and Spam IQ Quiz](http://www.it.northwestern.edu/security/phishing/index.html) to see if you are prepared to spot and deal with phishing
Work For Us!

• If you think you've got what it takes to solve tech problems at NU, come work for us!
• Phone, e-mail, and in-person troubleshooting
• Two locations: NUIT Support Center and Laptop ER
• Flexible schedule between 8-15 hours each week
• $9/hr starting pay with opportunities for advancement
• Find more information about us and other jobs at: http://www.it.northwestern.edu/about/student-jobs/index.html
Stay Connected

Follow the NUIT Support Center @NU1HELP

Become a fan of the NUIT Support Center on Facebook!

Friend us, add us, love us
Don't Be A Stranger!

The NUIT Support Center is here to help all year long

- 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Monday - Thursday)
- 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Friday)
- 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. (Saturday)
- 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Sunday)
- Phone, chat, and e-mail service
- Walk-in support available by appointment