



SHARING SPECIAL MOMENTS ONLINE

**STAYING
IN TOUCH**

**CYBER SECURITY
AWARENESS MONTH**

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Interacting online has become a part of our everyday lives. It allows us to make friends all over the world and makes it easier to keep in touch with friends and family who might not live close by

- **Photo sharing** is a great way to let friends and family know what's going on in your life. Photos can be shared through instant messaging programs, chat rooms, social networking sites, photo sharing sites, email and a variety of other programs. Once you send or upload a photo, it's out of your control. A private photo that you send to a boyfriend or girlfriend can easily be distributed to everyone on his or her contact list. And once it's online, it can be downloaded and saved and even altered by anyone in the world. Keep this in mind when posting photos of your friends as well – always get their permission before posting anything.
- **Social networking sites** let you stay in touch with friends and family all over the world and update them on your life. With message boards, photos, video applications and more, these sites are getting more and more complex. However, it's easy for people to find out all kinds of information about you if you post it on your profile, and some people may use this information to get something from you. The main purpose of social networking websites is to get people to connect, whether with friends or just people from around the world who share the same interests as you. It's important to remember, though, that sharing too much personal information can be a bad thing and that sometimes it can get into the wrong hands.

Don't let cyber criminals exploit the special moments between you and your loved ones. Following cyber safe best practices like learning how to spot phishing scams, being aware of malicious downloads and backing up your files can help protect you from cybercrime.