CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS DAY 5

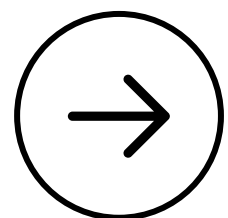## Let's talk about Public-Wifi

Iwuchukwu Augusta Chioma

Public Wifi

Its convenient , feels harmless and saves money until it isn't. Hackers love public networks because that makes it easy to peek into your private world.
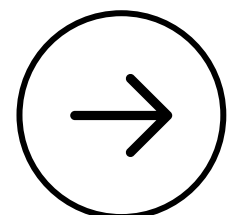
Iwuchukwu Augusta Chioma

What is Public Wifi

Public Wi-Fi is that "free internet" you see in places like:Airports , Cafés ,Hotels ,Malls ,Bus terminals, Even in some parks.You connect, browse, or download at no cost to you.Sounds convenient, right? But here's the hidden truth **Public Wi-Fi** is like a crowded market.

Everyone is there for their own reason, and while most people are harmless, a few are pickpockets quietly watching, waiting for someone to slip up. In cyberspace, those pickpockets are hackers.Imagine you're whispering personal secrets to a friend in a noisy marketplace.Anyone nearby could overhear you because you're speaking in public. That's exactly what happens when you connect to public Wi-Fi without protection.

Your device is "talking" to the network, and if it's not secure, someone can eavesdrop seeing your messages, passwords, or bank details.
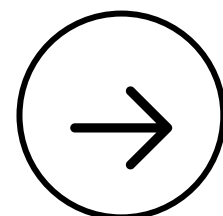
Iwuchukwu Augusta Chioma

Why It's Risky

- No Encryption: Most public Wi-Fi networks don't encrypt your data, meaning hackers can see what you're doing online.

- Fake Hotspots: Cybercriminals can create a fake Wi-Fi name like "FreeAirport_WiFi" and once you connect, they can steal your information.

- Session Hijacking: A hacker can intercept your session and take over your social media or email account without needing your password.
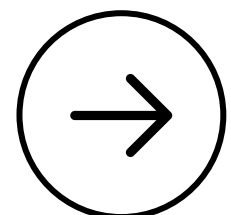
Iwuchukwu Augusta Chioma

How to Stay Safe

Here's how to stay safe when using public Wi-Fi:

✅ Avoid logging into sensitive accounts (banking, email, work dashboards)

✅ Use a VPN like NordVPN, ProtonVPN, ExpressVPN to encrypt your traffic

✅ Forget networks after use

✅Always enable MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication) even if your password leaks, your account won't open easily

✅Use your mobile data for sensitive tasks.

✅Always verify the legit name of the Wi-Fi network before connecting.

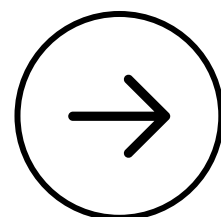✅ Disable auto-connect on your device so it doesn't join unknown networks.

Iwuchukwu Augusta Chioma

Next time you're tempted to connect to free Wi-Fi, remember free can be very expensive. Connect wisely.

Iwuchukwu Augusta Chioma

Share, like and follow for more Cybersecurity awareness tips

Iwuchukwu Augusta Chioma