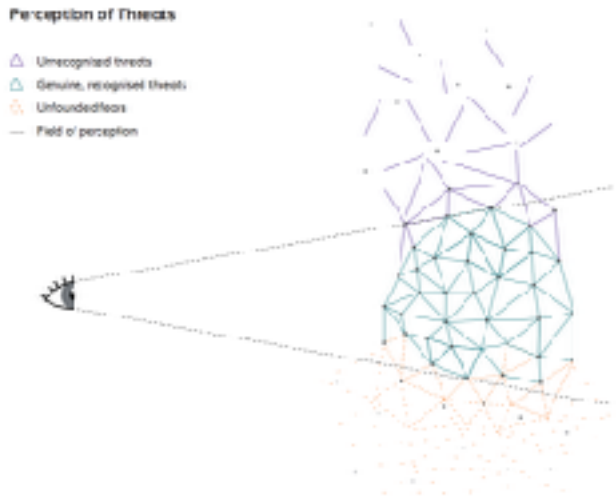
CryptoSquad
BKPL Info Commons, 4/29

Safety (digital or not) is a community and personal worry. Each of us has different information (websites we visit, bank account info, medical conditions, personal messages) that we would like protect from different people (hackers, friends, the government). Part of good computer practice is figuring out what threats and methods are either beyond our understanding or totally out of our reach, and what we think of those can totally change based on our situation and emotions. And the steps we might want to take can add up to a lot, but it's OK to take them in steps—focus on forming habits, not just installs. As we, the laws (ex: net neutrality), and tech change (OS updates), our old responses will also need to change to match them.

Computer Hygiene:
(These points will stay the same, but the software might change / grow outdated)
Update software regularly, to keep up with security patches
Regular virus scans (AVG, Avast, Bitdefender)
Use strong passwords / a password manager (KeePass, LastPass)
Protect your browser with script/ad blockers (uBlock Origin, Privacy Badger)
Connect to websites with a secure connection (HTTPS Everywhere)

Figure from Tactical Tech's *Holistic Security* manual, p. 58



Resources:
Security in a Box, https://securityinabox.org/:
step-by-step security guides for each operating system
Surveillance Self-Defense, https://ssd.eff.org/ — explanation of different surveillance threats and the tools that defend against them
Prism Break, https://prism-break.org/en/ — free, open-source software
Cryptoparty, https://www.cryptoparty.in/ — meet-ups, crypto news