

## Things to be aware of

The most important thing to learn is a basic security **mindset**: an awareness of the fact that things can (and how they might) **fail** or be abused.

There is **no such thing** as **100% secure**, there are **no guarantees**, and there is always a **weakest link**.

**Security is a process**, not a purchase.

Security is **not about tools**; it's about **understanding** the **threats** you face and how you can **counter** them. You need to figure out **what** you need to (and can) **protect** and **from whom**; and how this **changes** depending on where and what you're doing and how and with whom you're doing it.

You need a **basic understanding** of the way the **internet** works, what **metadata** is and what the **tools** you use do.

Make sure you know the **limitations** of the tools you use: you need to know what they *do* but also what they **do not protect** you against and how they can (be made to) fail.

When you use the "**cloud**", you're giving control over your data to someone else.

Be aware of the **trust** you place in the people that made the software (and hardware) you use and that run the services you use; ask yourself whether that trust is deserved.

See  
also

<https://ssd.eff.org>

<https://securityinabox.org>

<https://toolbox.bof.nl> (dutch)

"Encryption works. Properly implemented strong crypto systems are one of the few things that you can rely on."

There is **no cloud**  
just other people's  
computers

## Free Software

### Who controls your computer?

Free Software is software that anyone can **use**, **study**, **share** and **improve** freely. Most Free Software is gratis, but Free Software is not about price: it's about **liberty**.

When you don't control a program, the program controls you. Whoever controls the software therefore controls you.

Non-free software often leaks your data or hides other malicious features; no one is allowed to study how it works and what it actually does on your computer or phone.

Using exclusively Free Software on your computer or device puts you in full control and allows you to safeguard your privacy. Even though you may not have the skills to exercise each of the four freedoms yourself, you will benefit from the knowledge and expertise of vibrant communities.

### Learn more

Technology should empower us, instead of oppressing us.

Organisations like the Free Software Foundation (FSF) and Free Software Foundation Europe (FSFE) are dedicated to promoting Free Software and working to build a free digital society.



<https://fsf.org>

<https://fsfe.org>

## Digital rights

Digital rights organisations like the Electronic Frontier Foundation (US), EDRi (Europe) and Bits of Freedom (Netherlands) are dedicated to promote, protect and uphold civil rights like privacy and communications freedom.



**BITS OF FREEDOM**  
VERDEDIGT DIGITALE BURGERRECHTEN

<https://eff.org>

<https://edri.org>

<https://bof.nl>

<https://github.com/obfusk/cryptoparty-privacycafe-menu>



# learn digital self-defense

# Privacy

# Café



# CRYPTOPARTY

<https://privacycafe.nl>

<https://cryptoparty.in>