

# 3 Tips to Stay Safe Online

## 1) Stop. Think. Connect.

- **Take a moment. Ask yourself:**
  - Is the message out of the ordinary?
  - Does it ask for personal info?
  - Am I being asked to download or click anything?
  - **IS THIS URGENT?**
  - *If yes to any of the above, be skeptical!*
- **Consider an alternate response**
  - Log in to a website directly, not through provided links.
  - Could I call someone I know to verify the message?
- **Cornell and many other websites require secure logins**
  - "Green means go!" – we use EV certificates
  - Other sites: "Secure" green locks



## 2) Securing passwords

- Make them *unique* for each online account (especially your NetID).
- The longer, the better; use passphrases to make passwords more memorable.
- Avoid single dictionary words, but you can use many words!
- Bad Examples:
  - 1qaz2wsx
  - password
  - 12345678
- Good Examples:
  - w\_|7b"^[extract\_itex]IQX;
  - 2LegitToQuit#[/extract\_itex]
  - Woodchucks are sneaky, yes?
  - N0-HeCan^tReadMyPokerF@ce!
- Overwhelmed? Consider a free and trusted password manager, like **LastPass**...



## 3) Help is here!

- Cornell's "Phish Bowl" site
  - <https://it.cornell.edu/phish-bowl>
- Cornell's "Verified Communications" site
  - <https://it.cornell.edu/verified-cornell-communications>
- IT Service Desk
  - [itservicedesk@cornell.edu](mailto:itservicedesk@cornell.edu) ; (607) 255-5500 ; 121 CCC on AG Quad & Cornell Campus Store
- IT Security Office
  - [security-services@cornell.edu](mailto:security-services@cornell.edu) ; (607) 255-6664