

Why use a computer and the internet?

Unless you do something with it, a computer is just a collection of metal, silicon and plastic. Here are some ideas of what you could do both online and offline.

How do people use computers?



“I used a computer to type up my CV which really helps when searching for jobs”

Jacqui

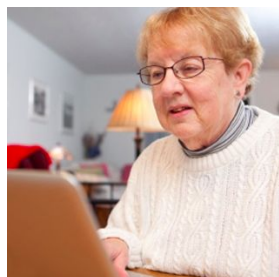
“I set up a family budget to help us pay for a holiday. Now we're off to Benidorm!”
Steven

“This tablet computer is so easy to carry around - I've got hundreds of ebooks so I can read my favourites any time I like.”
Mary



Doing more with the internet

Having a computer without the internet means you only get a few of the benefits available. Go online to try out more, like these people.

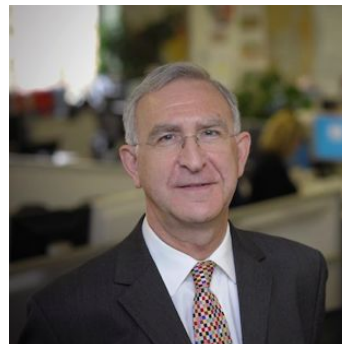


“After comparing prices on the internet I saved £150 on my car insurance!”

Pauline

“My sister lives in Australia, we chat online every week, for free!”
Arif

“Whatever you do, you won't start World War 3!”
Roger from the Tinder Foundation



Your identity is safe

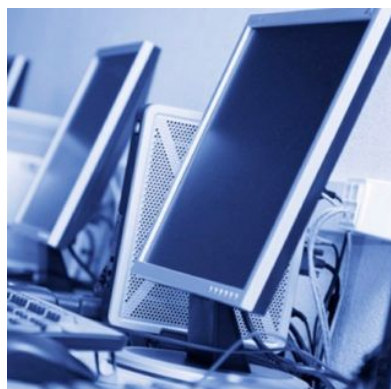
News companies report loads of stories of user details being stolen, but it's important to remember that as long as you're safe, your details won't be stolen.

Just like in real life, using common sense is your best defence.

Karon from A1 Community Works says 'Remember when you're finished to logoff and shutdown.'

Is it hard?

All the people you've seen in this topic are real people who didn't use computers. With a little help and regular practice they're now online and you can do it too.



Ian from Salvation Army Employment Plus says 'Take your time, don't panic and do ask for help!'

You're already seeing this guide, so you're well on the way.

Still unsure?

If you are still unsure about devices or any of the information in these documents, try visiting the [Glossary](#) to find out more about any of the terms you are unsure of.