MULTI FACTOR AUTHENTICATION

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I have written about passwords already so hopefully now some of you will have taken the time to consider if you are using a strong password, especially for your primary email account!

MFA (Multi Factor Authentication) some times called 2FA (Two Factor Authentication) is a way to add extra security to your online accounts. Instead of just using a password, it requires something else to confirm it's really you. This second "factor" could be a code sent to your phone, your fingerprint, or even a special app.

So even if someone steals your password, they can't get into your account without this extra step. It's like adding another lock on your door to keep your information safer.

Here are some reasons why MFA or 2FA is good for personal cyber security.

- **Enhanced Security:** MFA adds an extra layer of protection beyond just a password, making it much harder for hackers to access your account even if your password is compromised.
- **Prevents Unauthorized Access:** Even if a hacker steals your password, they would still need the second factor (like a one-time code sent to your phone) to access your email or accounts.
- **Mitigates Phishing Attacks:** MFA can stop phishing attempts in their tracks, as attackers won't have the second factor needed to gain access, even if they trick you into giving up your password.
- **Low Cost, High Impact:** Enabling MFA is typically free and easy to set up, but it provides a significant increase in your overall cybersecurity defences.

So why am I mentioning it? Lots of digital services now enforce MFA or suggest it however there are many email users out there who have not activated or can't activate MFA for one reason or another. In my experience this is often for the older internet provider email addresses such as BT, NTL, Virgin, Sky, Tiscali etc but not limited to these. Other email accounts do offer MFA but it is not turn on by default, you must look in security settings of your account to set it up. Sometimes this is not so straight forward for the legacy email accounts, so if you need help setting up MFA for your main email account just give me a call and together we can secure your online world.

My previous articles can be found here online:
www.andy-it.co.uk/home/blog

I live in Toddington & provide IT support in the area.

- Computer, Laptop & Apple Mac Repair
- Home IT Support
- Internet and Network Problems
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