GCA Cybersecurity Toolkit™ For Journalists

GLOBAL CYBER ALLIANCE™

A Resource for Independent Journalists, Watchdogs, and Small Newsrooms

A Free Press Depends on a Secure Internet

Citizens need to trust that the news they read is accurate, factual, and complete. Journalists also need to be confident that their work won't compromise the safety and security of colleagues and sources. The Internet now determines how journalism is made and consumed, which means a free press needs a more secure Internet.
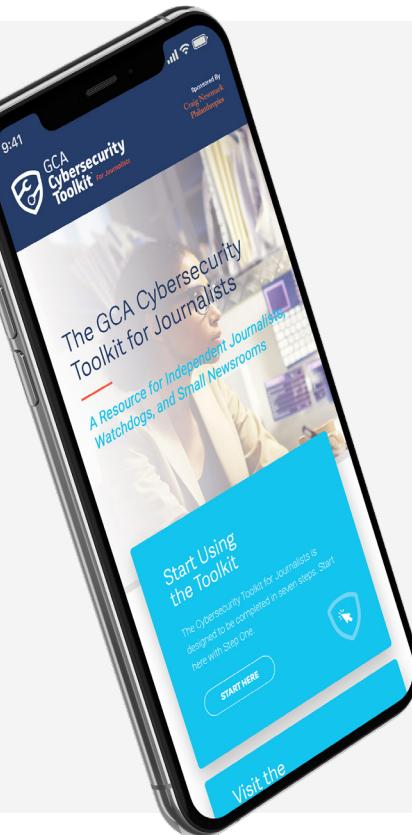
Journalism Snapshot:

Today, news outlets depend on freelancers who are inherently more vulnerable without corporate support.

Journalists covering hostile foreign regimes and large companies have been targeted online.

Hackers can hijack social media accounts to impersonate journalists, spreading misiniformation and damaging a journalist's reputation.

Whistleblowers and other vulnerable sources can face retribution if identities are exposed due to poor cybersecurity.

These issues pose grave risk to freedom of the press. Fortunately, journalists can take basic steps – for free, today – to reduce this risk and safeguard their reputation, data and sources. The GCA Cybersecurity Toolkit for Journalists can

Free Tools and Resources, All in One Place

Journalists have a lot to do on a shoestring. That's why we have assembled these free and vetted tools, with clear, easy to understand instructions that will be supported with training resources. The tools can be implemented in one sitting or between deadlines. GCA has reviewed and recommends these tools – some are specific to journalism, and others are best-practices for anybody working with sensitive information.

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What's in the GCA Cybersecurity Toolkit?

The GCA Cybersecurity Toolkit is organized into a series of toolboxes, each with tools and reference materials that address a specific cybersecurity area. Each tool is organized and described in a way that makes it as easy as possible for people with no basic cybersecurity knowledge to understand the risks and select the right tools.

The toolboxes and tools were carefully chosen based on the Center for Internet Security Controls, the UK National Cyber Security Centre Cyber Essentials, and the Australian Cyber Security Centre's Mitigation Strategies.

Toolboxes

Know What You Have
Devices and Applications

Discover tools that help you identify and assess your devices and applications so you can take the proper steps to secure them.

Update Your Defenses
Updates, Patches, and Vulnerability Management

Boost your digital immunity by implementing tools that automatically update your systems and applications.

Backup and Recover
System Backups

Discover tools that help you routinely backup your data and restore it should you fall victim to an attack.

Encrypt Your Data
Disk and External Drive Encryption

Use the tools here to encrypt your data and secure your communications so that vital information is not as easily compromised.

Communicate Securely
Security Configurations

Use these tools to improve the security of your texts, calls, and emails to better protect your data and safeguard your

Beyond Simple Passwords
Passwords and Two-Factor Authentication

Safeguard your accounts by learning how to create stronger passwords and adding additional layers of protection.

Prevent Phishing & Malware
DNS Filters, Anti-Virus, and Ad-Blockers

Protect against malicious attacks with advanced tools that help you navigate the Internet safely.

Supporting Digital Literacy in All Newsrooms

Investing in cybersecurity is vital to support and protect a free press. With the GCA Cybersecurity Toolkit we've done the homework for you to help safeguard against threats that can prevent the dissemination of information. Whether you're a freelancer, an activist researcher, or wear many hats within your small organization, we believe that creating cybersecurity conscious communicators helps protect the wellbeing of all. We encourage you to explore the toolkit, implement the tools, and share the toolkit with your colleagues.

Together we can improve the safety and security of the free press.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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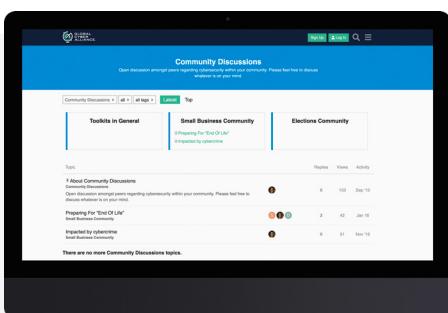
GCA Community Forum

The discussion continues on the GCA Community Forum. Login to get tips and talk shop with other journalists around the world. Gain expert info on tools and toolkit resources, and share your experience with peers.

community.globalcyberalliance.org