**Suggested newsletter/news article**

**Headline: Choose your combo and turn on multi-factor authentication today**

As we increasingly rely on digital platforms for everything from banking to socialising, the need to protect our online safety and digital identity has never been more critical.

Multi-factor authentication (MFA) – which you may also know as 2-factor authentication (2FA) – can help protect online accounts by adding an extra layer of protection when logging in. In short – MFA combines a **secure password** with **proof it’s you** to improve your accounts security.

It’s an easy extra step to take that makes it much harder for cybercriminals to gain access to your accounts.

There are many ways of proving your identity digitally, such as facial recognition, fingerprint scans, authenticator apps and one-time codes sent to a mobile device.

Once you ‘choose your combo’, this second step makes it much harder for anyone else to get into your account, even if they know your password. It’s like locking a door with 2 locks instead of one.

And once it’s set up, it’s quick and easy to use – most people just need to tap a notification or enter a short code when logging in.

The Department of Government Services is encouraging all Victorians to turn on multi-factor authentication for their online accounts. Each service has its own steps, so follow the prompts when you’re asked to turn MFA on.

Learn more at [**vic.gov.au/MFA**](https://www.vic.gov.au/multi-factor-authentication) and follow DGS on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/department-of-government-services) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/VicGovDGS/) to get more information about protecting yourself online.

**Suggested email content**

**Subject: It’s time to choose your MFA combo**

Between banking, online shopping, social media, and emails – our lives and habits are becoming increasingly digitised.

So how can we ensure our accounts that store sensitive and financial information are safe from cybercriminals?

Multi-factor authentication (MFA) – which you may also know as 2-factor authentication (2FA) – adds an extra layer of protection when logging in or completing an online transaction.

It’s an easy extra step to take that makes it much harder for hackers to gain access to your accounts.

In short – MFA combines a **secure password** with **proof it’s you** to improve your accounts security.

There are many ways of proving your identity digitally, including:

* **one-time codes** sent to an email address or mobile device
* **facial recognition**, also known as Face ID, which uses your phone’s front camera to scan your face and confirm its you
* **fingerprint recognition**, which uses a scanner to check your fingerprint
* **applications** including authenticators which generate temporary log-on codes, and mobile apps which require you to tap a notification to confirm it’s you logging in.

Once you ‘choose your combo’ this second step makes it much harder for anyone else to get into your account, even if they know your password. It’s like locking a door with 2 locks instead of one. And once it’s set up, it’s quick and easy to use.

The Victorian Government is encouraging all Victorians to turn on multi-factor authentication for their online accounts.

Learn more at [**vic.gov.au/MFA**](https://www.vic.gov.au/multi-factor-authentication) and follow DGS on [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/department-of-government-services) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/VicGovDGS/) to get more information about protecting yourself online.