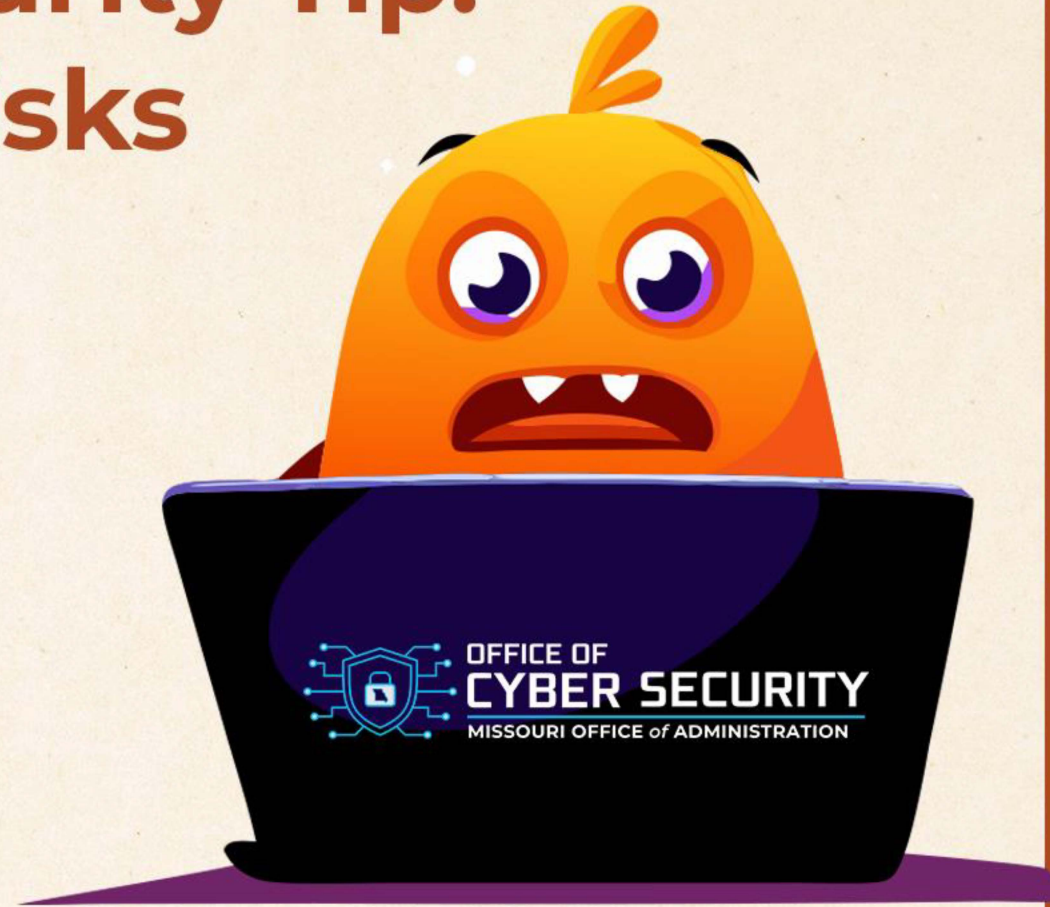


October 2025 Cyber Security Tip: Supply Chain Security Risks

Counterfeit hardware purchases, such as cheap USB charging cables or home security cameras not purchased from a reputable source can use hidden storage components that contain malicious code. This malware can allow for remote hacking.

Tips for Ensuring Hardware Purchases are Safe:

- Research products before you buy. Cheap products are not always safe.
- Update any default passwords with strong ones and use multi-factor authentication when possible.
- Keep your devices up to date and apply patches regularly.
- Enable your router's built-in firewall.
- Install security software such as next-generation endpoint protection (NGEP) on your computer.



Key takeaway: Research technology products before you buy them to ensure they are safe. Be aware of the risk they bring into your network.