Bluetooth

Have you ever turned your Bluetooth off? Did you know turning it off doesn't remove your device from the items previously connected?

We use Bluetooth for our headphones, car radios, computers, and TVs. However, just because we choose to disconnect from said item or we go out of range so it temporarily disconnects doesn't mean you're protected.

[Bluetooth](#) works by sending signals out to connect to whatever devices it can find within range. By connecting, you permit another device to use your information and data stored inside; that's how you're able to take hands-free calls or jam out to your favourite song on a speaker.

Unfortunately, it's common practice not to turn off our Bluetooth when we stop using it. That means your device will continue to send a connection signal, and a potential scammer could use that to hack your personal information. Turning your Bluetooth off stops some potential hacks; another leak of information can come from your information lingering on secondary devices.

For example, when you rent a car on vacation, you most likely connect to the CarPlay system via Bluetooth. You use the GPS because you aren't sure of where you're going and having some of your tunes playing helps fill the space. A text message from home sends

you into a panic, but the screen displays a message saying, "Your Amazon package has been successfully delivered." Whew! The trip comes to a close, and you're back at the rental place, returning the keys and double-checking that you didn't miss your flight. The flight lands safely, and you're nestled at home, sharing all the moments of your wonderful trip. All of a sudden, you get an email from your bank saying you have a negative balance and have drifted into overdraft for which you have no way of paying back. And now you're a victim of fraud.

Leaving your device's data in the vehicle and not deleting it was how the hackers were able to use your data to steal from you. Just because you leave the car, it doesn't mean there isn't a retrievable saved record of your device and personal data. Everytime you disconnect from a device that isn't yours, always go into the menu and delete the record of your device. This can protect you from easy con jobs that steal your data in the blink of an eye.