COMPUTER SECURITY BASICS

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O'Reilly & Associates, Inc.

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There's a lot more consciousness of security today, but not a lot of understanding of what it means and how far it should go. Nobody loves security, but most people—users, system administrators, and managers alike—are starting to feel that they'd better accept it, or at least try to understand it.

This handbook describes security concepts like trusted systems, cryptography, mandatory access control, and biometrics in simple terms. It gives you the basic security concepts you need to know to be able to protect your system and your data. It also explains the government and industry security standards that affect today's computer systems and vendors.

For example, most U.S. government equipment acquisitions now require "Orange Book" (Trusted Computer System Evaluation Criteria) certification. *Computer Security Basics* contains a more readable introduction to the Orange Book than any other book or government publication.

Contents include:

- Introduction—basic computer security terms and concepts, what security is good for, the Internet worm and other security breaches
- Access controls—logins, passwords, discretionary and mandatory access controls on data
- A summary of Orange Book classes and security requirements
- Communications, network, and encryption security
- Physical security, biometric devices, and TEMPEST
- Appendices—a complete security glossary, reference tables, other sources of security information

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