

## MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION

# A USEFUL TOOL TO KEEP YOU CYBER SAFE

### What is multi-factor authentication (MFA)?

Turning on multi-factor authentication is an easy way to add another layer of security to your logins and accounts, usually by entering a code from another device on top of your password.

- Passwords are inherently insecure – they are guessable, can be stored and transmitted in plain text, and are often reused.
- Even if a hacker knows your password, with MFA in place they still can't get to your accounts.
- You can use MFA for most email, social media, banking and shopping accounts, as well as to access your devices.

### How does multi-factor authentication work?

When you use multi-factor authentication, you will log into accounts using a password and another piece of information to confirm that it is indeed you attempting to log in.

This additional piece of information could be:



Something you **know**  
(e.g. *passphrase, security questions*)



Something you **have**  
(e.g. *security token, phone, authenticator apps*)



Something you **are**  
(e.g. *biometrics such as fingerprint, facial recognition*)

**WATCH OUT** — If you receive a code for an account you weren't trying to log in to, change your password – someone might be trying to access your account.



### Single Factor Authentication

When you log into an online account with only a password.



### Multi-Factor Authentication

When you log into an online account with a password and something else.



## How do I use multi-factor authentication (MFA)?

- ✔ You can install and sign up to a range of authenticator applications (shown below). Once you've signed up to an application, you may need to check that your online accounts are set to use MFA.
  - You'll often find the option to enable MFA in the privacy settings of your online accounts.
- ✔ Some online services don't call it multi-factor authentication.
  - Instead, it can be referred to as "2FA" or "two-step authentication".
  - Others use different terms, for example 'security key', when they're talking about 2FA.
- ✔ Banks all enable their multi-factor authentication systems differently.
  - Some will have different options depending on if you're logging in via your desktop, laptop, or mobile device.
  - Check your bank's website to see what their MFA options are, and how to set it up.



Microsoft  
Authenticator



NordPass



Google Authenticator



## Where to go for more information related to cybersecurity?

At Farm Source, we are working and communicating with our community to ensure they also act as our first line of defence against cybersecurity incidents.

If you do see something suspicious or need more support around staying cyber safe, we recommend the following resources:

- <https://www.cert.govt.nz> – **Cert NZ** has great resources and tips on how you and your family can stay cyber safe, as well as updates on the latest scams
- Follow **NetSafe NZ** on **social media** for the latest advice, great cyber resources and tips for business and families
- Get in touch with our **Service Centre** on **0800 65 65 68** in the first instance if you have any specific cyber security concerns related to Farm Source