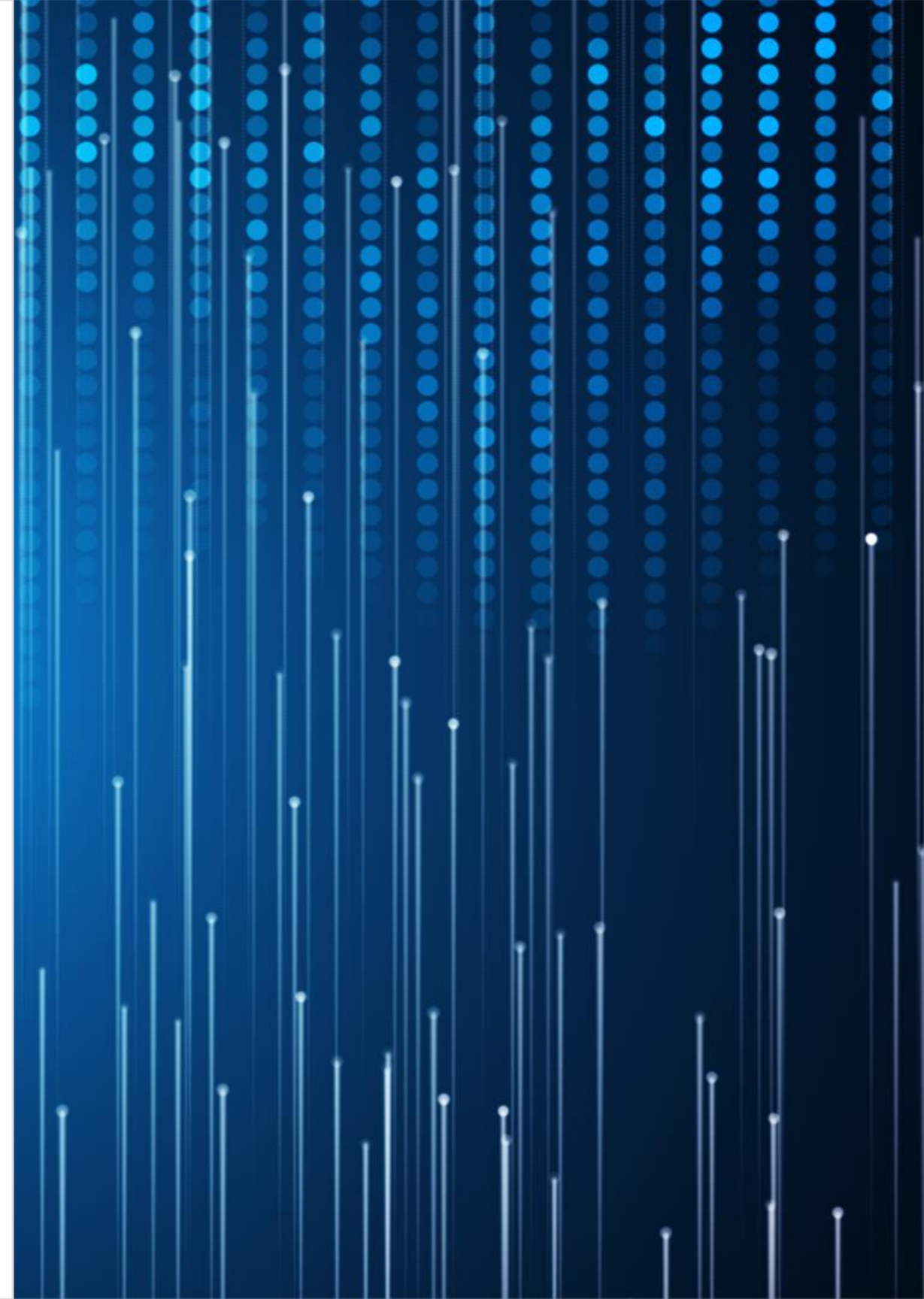# Basic User Cybersecurity Cybersecurity Tips

# Introduction to the Human Firewall

A human firewall are employees who act as the first line of defense by using their knowledge of how cybersecurity cybersecurity works to recognize suspicious activities to prevent cyberattacks.

# You can be the hero!

The human firewall starts with you! You can own the safest car in the world, but it is on the driver to use good judgement, knowledge, and wisdom to remain safe.

# Create Long, Strong Passwords

Use complex passwords that are unique for each account. Combine uppercase uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and special characters.

# The Math is Mathing

At minimum – 12 characters of upper- and
lower-case letters (300 years to guess),
with numbers, (2,000 years),
and with symbols (34,000 years).

16 characters of upper- and lower-case
letters (2 billion years to guess),
with numbers, (37 billion years),
and with symbols (1 trillion years).

# Keep Software Up to Date

Regularly update your software, including operating systems, web browsers, and browsers, and antivirus programs, to ensure you have the latest security patches security patches and bug fixes.

# Check Privacy Settings

Review and adjust the privacy settings on your devices, social media accounts, accounts, and online services to control what information is shared and who can and who can access it.
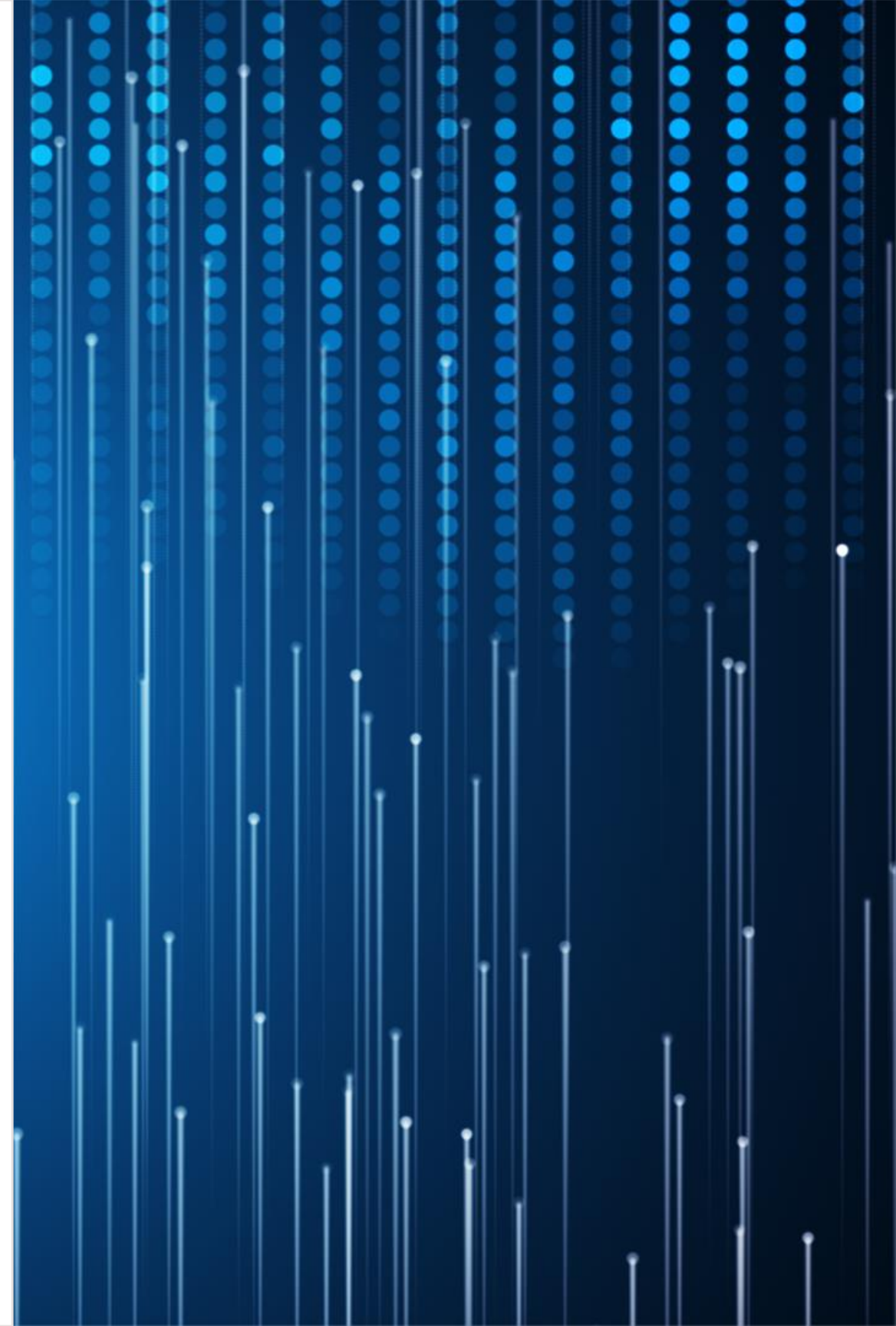
# Backing Up Important Data

Regularly back up your important data, such as documents, photos, and videos, and videos, to an external hard drive or cloud storage to protect against data against data loss and ransomware attacks.
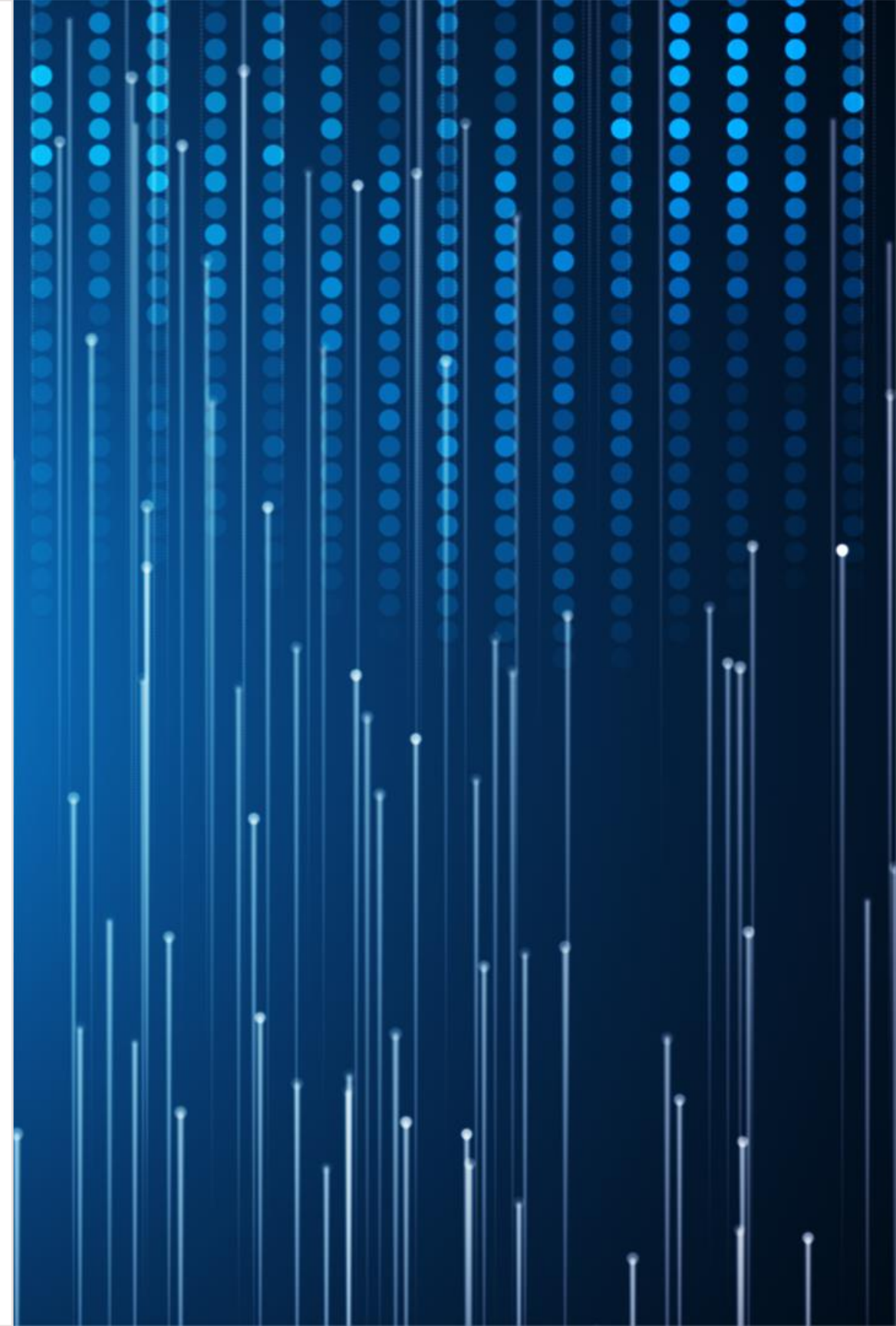
# Think Before You Click

Avoid clicking on suspicious links, opening email attachments from unknown unknown senders, and downloading files from untrusted sources to prevent prevent malware infections.

# Take a Breath and Do Some Research

Ask someone else for their opinions on a specific email or interaction. Sometimes a second review on a suspicious interaction can help you see the scam for what it is. Don't assume anything in the email is accurate information.

# Report and Alert

If you receive a suspicious email or message, report it to the appropriate authorities and delete it to protect yourself and others. Make sure to alert other staff members and parishioners when appropriate.
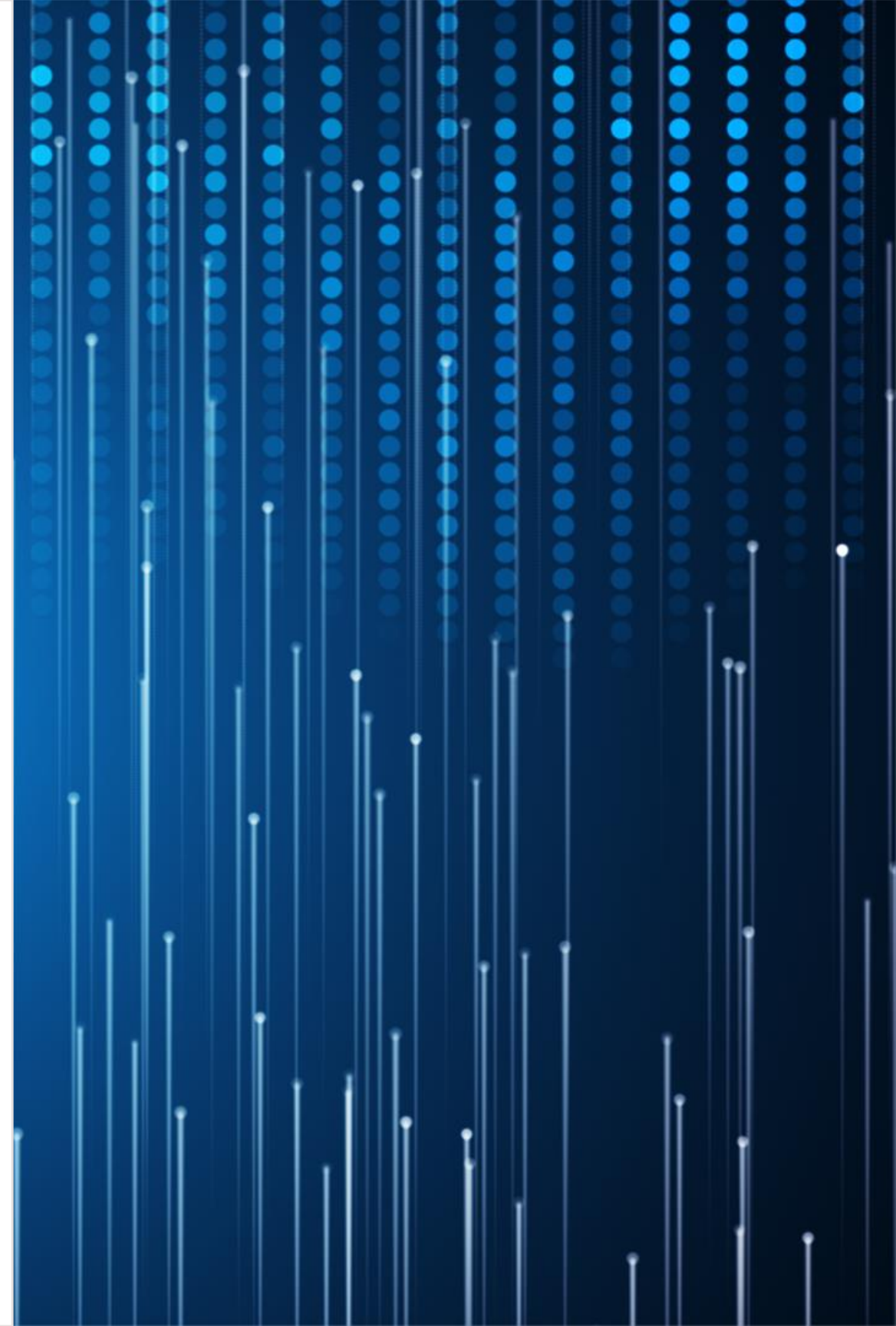
# Use Secure Wi-Fi

Avoid using public Wi-Fi networks for sensitive activities like online banking. Use VPN (Virtual Private Network) services for extra security when accessing the internet on public networks.
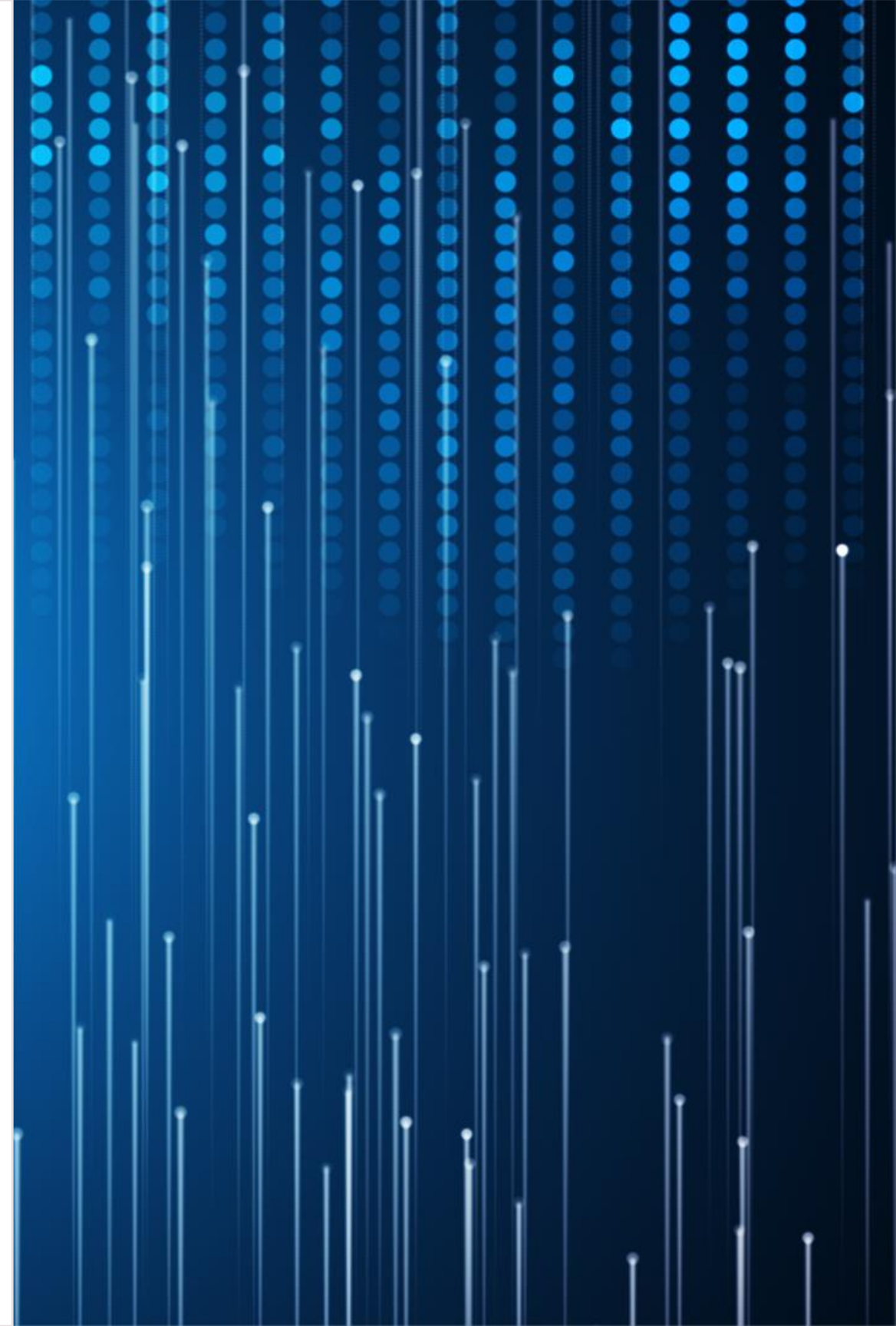
# Share with Care

Be cautious about sharing personal information online, including your full name, address, birthday, and financial details. Limit the information you share on social media.

# Don't cross the streams!

Keep personal and work separate. Don't use personal information on work tech and don't do work on personal tech.

# Understanding the Human Element

Why does cybersecurity remain such a challenge for so many of us? It really really comes down to three things: fear, uncertainty, and doubt.

What can we do to make it seem more achievable? Education is key – fostering a fostering a culture of cybersecurity awareness and teaching basic security habits goes a long way. Ultimately, a proactive and informed approach can make cybersecurity seem less daunting and more achievable for everyone.

Learn more at staysafeonline.org