

Best Practices for Using BPC on the Internet

Be aware that an outside party could gain access to your BPC account number if a vendors Internet website is not secure.

1. Only use your card in a secure environment. (i.e., the address line on your browser starts with https://).
2. Use sites that include a BBB (Better Business Bureau) Accredited Business seal. The seal should link to a page confirming that the business is BBB accredited. Be cautious if the seal is not linked to a BBB page confirming accredited business status, it could be a sign of unauthorized use of the trademark.
3. If you are not familiar with an online merchant, verify its reliability with outside organizations, such as the Better Business Bureau.
4. Know who you are doing business with before placing an order. Use Web sites that provide clear contact information (phone number, address in the real world, customer service contact,) for the company, as well as warranty, return and refund policy.
5. If an online purchasing website asks you to create an account with a password, protect that password.
6. Use a different password for each website you use. This procedure will help protect your BPC if the password for a specific website is compromised.
7. Change passwords for online purchasing websites on a regular basis.
8. Do not provide personal information, such as a Social Security number, bank account or personal phone numbers or home address.
9. A site should have a privacy policy explaining how the merchant will protect your information. If you cannot find that policy, request it.
10. Understand prices, shipping and handling charges, the terms of any product or service guarantees and the expected delivery date.
11. Double check your information to avoid ordering the wrong item or quantity.
12. Always verify the ship to location is accurate. It should include the Accountholders name, Department name, and building and room number.