Online Shopping with AmazonSmile

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) , the Amazon Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to eligible 501(c)(3) charity or non-profit organizations selected by customers. A perfect way to support the charity or non-profit of your choice.

www.smile.amazon.com

Rogue Area Computer Assistance League

How it works

Sign into your account

Type the name of the charity into the search box.

Once you've selected your charity, click the Select button

You will now be directed to the shopping site where you will see the name of your charity listed at the top of your screen.
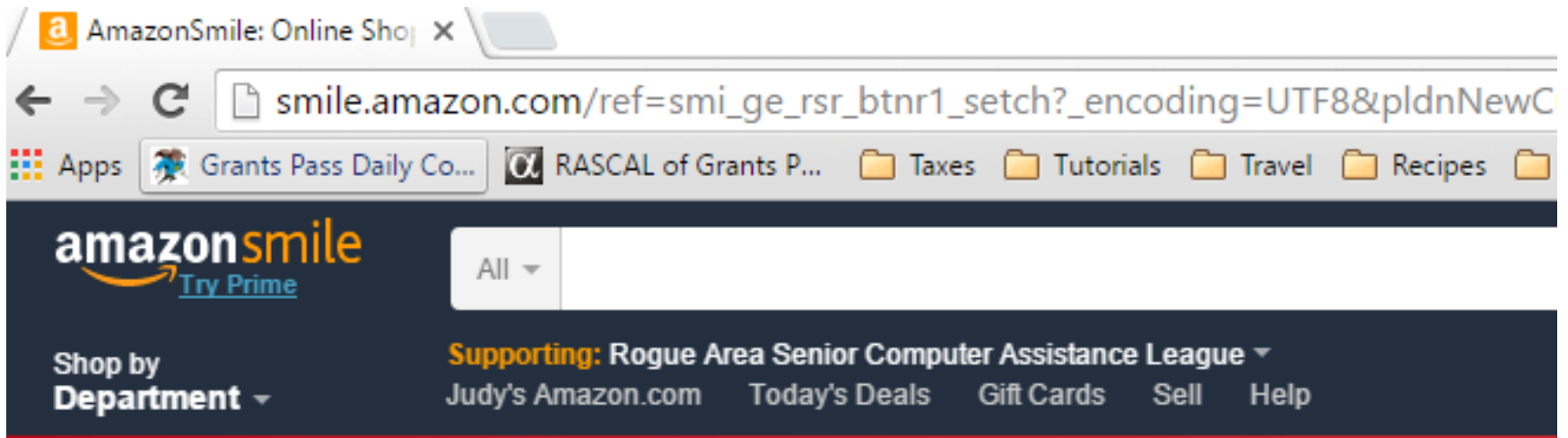
Once you've selected your charity, everything else functions the same. Shop for your favorite products or the perfect gift. Most products are eligible on AmazonSmile. If not, you will be notified.

You can checkout normally as well. No extra cost is passed onto you – Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to RASCAL

Once you've signed up for AmazonSmile, you will get an email welcoming you

amazonsmile   Your Account   Today's Deals   All Departments

Welcome to AmazonSmile!

Thank you for supporting
Rogue Area Senior Computer Assistance League.

Remember, always start at smile.amazon.com
and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your
eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

http://smile.amazon.com

About Amazon Prime

Receive all the benefits of Amazon Prime including FREE two day shipping for eligible purchases, unlimited streaming of movies and TV shows with Prime Instant Video, and the ability to borrow books from the Kindle Owners Lending Library for $99.00 a year.

Membership Sharing: Two adults living in the same household can create an Amazon Household to share certain Amazon Prime benefits

Details at: Amazon.com

Tips for Staying Safe when Shopping Online

1. Trust your Gut

2. Be Extra Careful if using a mobile device

3. Don't use public Wi-Fi to shop

4. Check your credit card statement frequently

5. Use a virtual credit card number

6. Change your passwords regularly

7. Look for HTTPS in the URL rather than of HTTP

8. Don't click on links in emails

9. Check the company's privacy policy

http://www.businessinsurance.org

Trust your Gut

Just like you wouldn't go into a store at the mall that you don't recognize and seems a little off to you, don't shop at stores online that give you a bad feeling and appear shady. If at any time during the shopping or checkout process you feel like the site is asking for too much personal information, just quit the transaction and leave the site.

Be Extra Careful if using a mobile device

Smartphones can basically do everything a computer can do nowadays, but that doesn't mean they are as protected against threats as your desktop. Most phones aren't equipped with the anti-virus software that you have on your computer, so it's easier for criminals to get malware on your mobile device that could help them steal information you enter

Don't use public Wi-Fi to shop

Anytime you enter personal information using a public network, you're setting yourself up for identity theft. Most Wi-Fi hotspots don't encrypt your data, so any hacker at your neighborhood Starbucks or wherever you're sharing Wi-Fi can basically just pluck your identity out of the air if he has the right software.

Check your credit card statement frequently

If you use a credit card, the card companies have to reimburse you for fraudulent charges under the Fair Credit Billing Act. But they can't always catch purchases you didn't make or receive, so it's up to you to keep an eye on your statements. If you see something fishy on your statement, just contact your credit card company to dispute the charge and possibly get a new card so the charges won't continue.

Use a virtual credit card number

If you just have to have something on a site you're unfamiliar with, there's a neat little thing called a virtual credit card number that allows you to shop online without exposing your real account number. Several banks offer these kind of temporary credit card numbers that allow you to set the amount and time frame for a purchase and then send you a card number to use online.

Change your passwords regularly

We know, we know. It's a pain to go through and change the passwords on all your online accounts, not to mention the trouble it'll take to try to remember them all. But if you really want to keep your information (and bank account) safe while you're shopping via the Internet, it's essential to mix up your account passwords every three to six months

Look for HTTPS in the URL rather than of HTTP

HTTPS is the one acronym you really need to know if you're going to make online purchases. The added "S" means that the way your information is being sent is secure. HTTPS using SSL, or Secure Sockets Layer, which encrypts the information flying through the wires so that only the intended recipient can see it.

Don't click on links in emails

Instead, type out the address in your browser to make sure you're going to the site you think you're visiting. Many phishing scams involve emails from what seem like legitimate sites — banks, online stores, anything you might trust — and then send you to a phony site where they can gather your information to steal your identity. If you get an email from a site where you've shopped before, make sure you don't follow the links and don't provide any financial or personal information the email requests.

Check the company's privacy policy

Reading the privacy policy is the only way to know for sure what a company does with users' information and how it is transmitted. Most of us have a tendency to gloss over this information, especially if it's lumped with the terms of service that we all say we've read and agreed to, but it's important if you want to make sure your personal data can't be sold to any third parties and that it is encrypted and secure. You've got to know the privacy policy, because like G.I. Joe said, knowing is half the battle

When the headlines are filled with new hacking cases, it might make you feel like it's time to give up the Internet altogether. But let's be honest; you'd never survive. So instead of swearing off the magical tool completely, you just need to know how to keep your information safe, especially when you're providing personal information when shopping online

http://www.businessinsurance.org

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