



A Bank Built on a Strong Foundation

TOPIC:
SHORTCUTS

Unveiling the Dangers of Taking Shortcuts

The danger comes in taking shortcuts. At ABOC we protect your data on our strong foundation of risk management, and we encourage you to slow down and take the safe path. Mistakes are just too dangerous.



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Growing up in Texas provided a lot of adventures. In 1979 I enjoyed a trip with a group of teens to Hueco Tanks State Park near El Paso. Yes, I'm an old coot.

It was a hot day. The temperature was above 100° in the shade, and there was precious little shade. In the group was a girl who had caught my eye, and I conveniently found my way to "guiding" her and her buddy a bit after the main group had charged up the rocks on the way to the top of mountain.

About halfway to the top, the girls were tired of hiking and ready to head back. The trouble was that we had climbed over some rather steep spots on our way up, and the way down looked very difficult. Being there to impress a girl, I looked for a solution and found one. Just about twenty feet away was a simple looking path. All we had to do was sit down and scoot across a little ledge to get there.

I led the way and started scooting. CRACK! That ledge gave way, and I slid and fell to another

ledge below it, breaking my left ankle on the tiny rock that saved my life. I do not remember how I got from my landing place to the side of the hill, but when I came to, the girls were next to me and were hollering for help. Shortly thereafter a mountain rescue team put a splint on my foot and lowered me about a hundred feet over a cliff by rope—hand over hand.

In cybersecurity, as in mountain hiking, shortcuts are dangerous. Had I missed the ledge that broke my ankle, I would have had a hundred-foot drop to solid rock.

In most cases we know and have traveled the path to cyber safety.

Use Multifactor Authentication.

- Have different passwords for each application or account.
- Hover over links before clicking,
- Verify attachments before opening.
- Keep your computer, phone, and tablet up to date.

- Encrypt hard drives, mobile devices, and important files.
- Make frequent backups.
- Avoid doing business on public Wi-Fi.

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Soon you can look for cyber tips on our website courtesy of our friends at KnowBe4.

Oh, the girl I wanted to impress? She and I never had a one-on-one conversation. I'm not sure why.