How Secure is your Flash Drive?

Flash drives. We all use them. They are small, cheap, and offer gigabytes of storage. It is easy to fill one with important files, clip it to a keychain or slip it in a purse and hit the road. But what if you lose it while looking for change or misplace your keys and is found by a hacker?

Here are some rules to follow to that will help protect your information:

**Rule 1:** Most importantly, minimize the amount of sensitive information you keep on it. The ideal amount is zero.

If you can’t follow rule 1:

**Rule 2:** Keep the flash drive safely in your possession or otherwise locked up in a safe place, just like any valuable object.

**Rule 3:** Use a drive with built-in access control and encryption protection, and use that feature. Don’t count on your ability to never lose the drive, or never have it stolen.

For more information on this week’s tip visit www.rochester.edu/it/security/securitytipofweek.