



Learn in 30
VPNs: Don't get mugged on the
Information Superhighway.

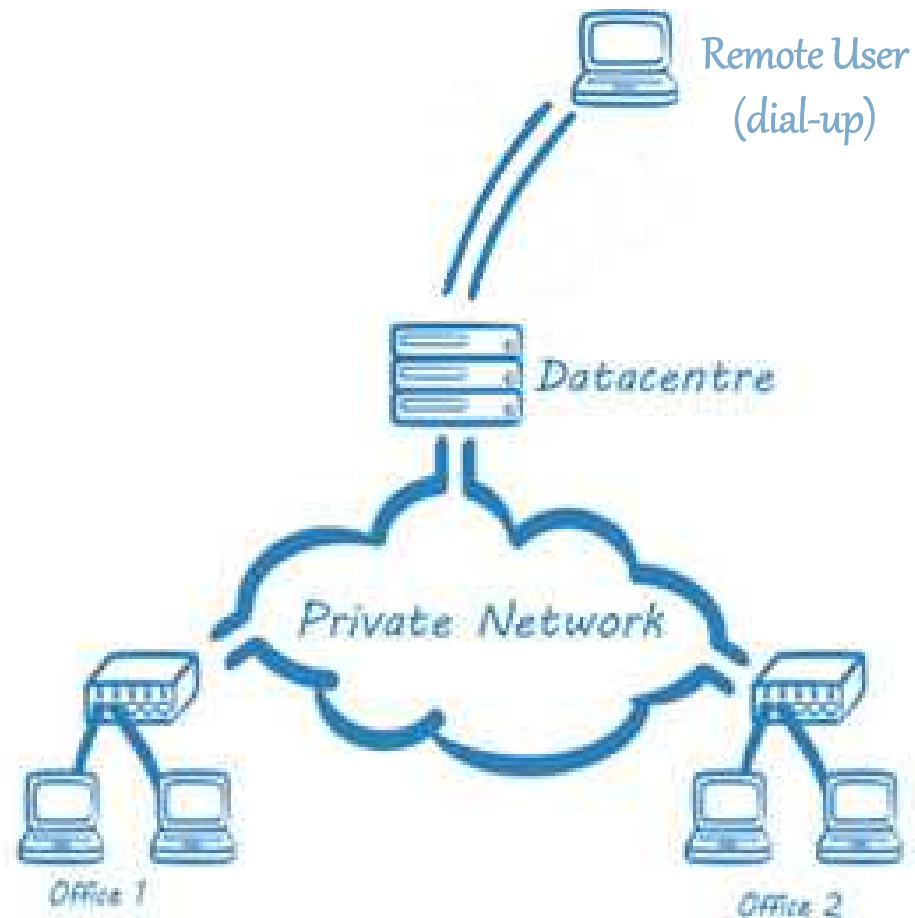
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VPN = Virtual Private Network



Why VPN?

Enterprise perspective:

- Internet connectivity easier to manage than dial-up
- Internet connectivity less expensive than dedicated lines
- Restrict network access — authorized users only

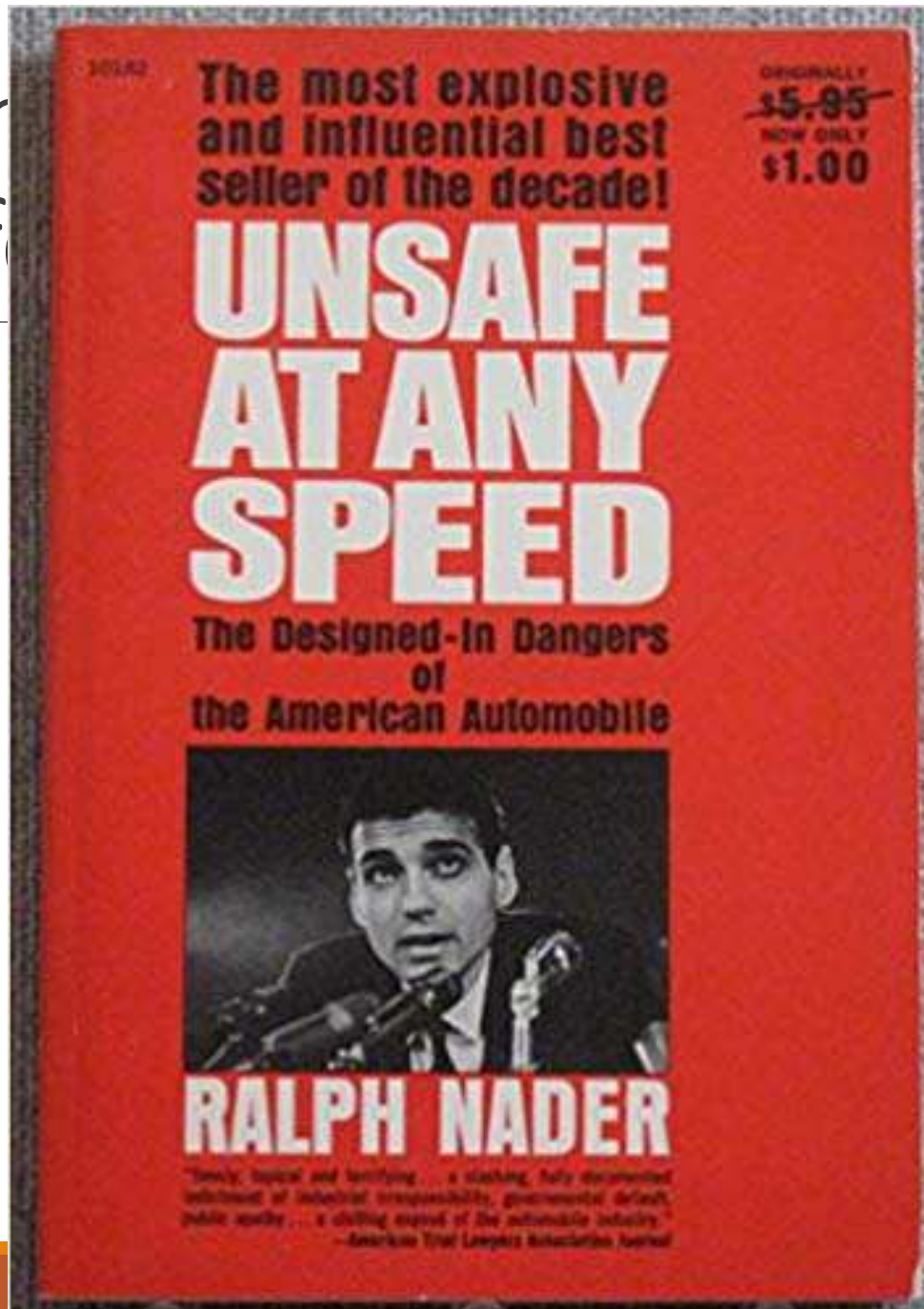
Why VPN?

Consumer perspective:

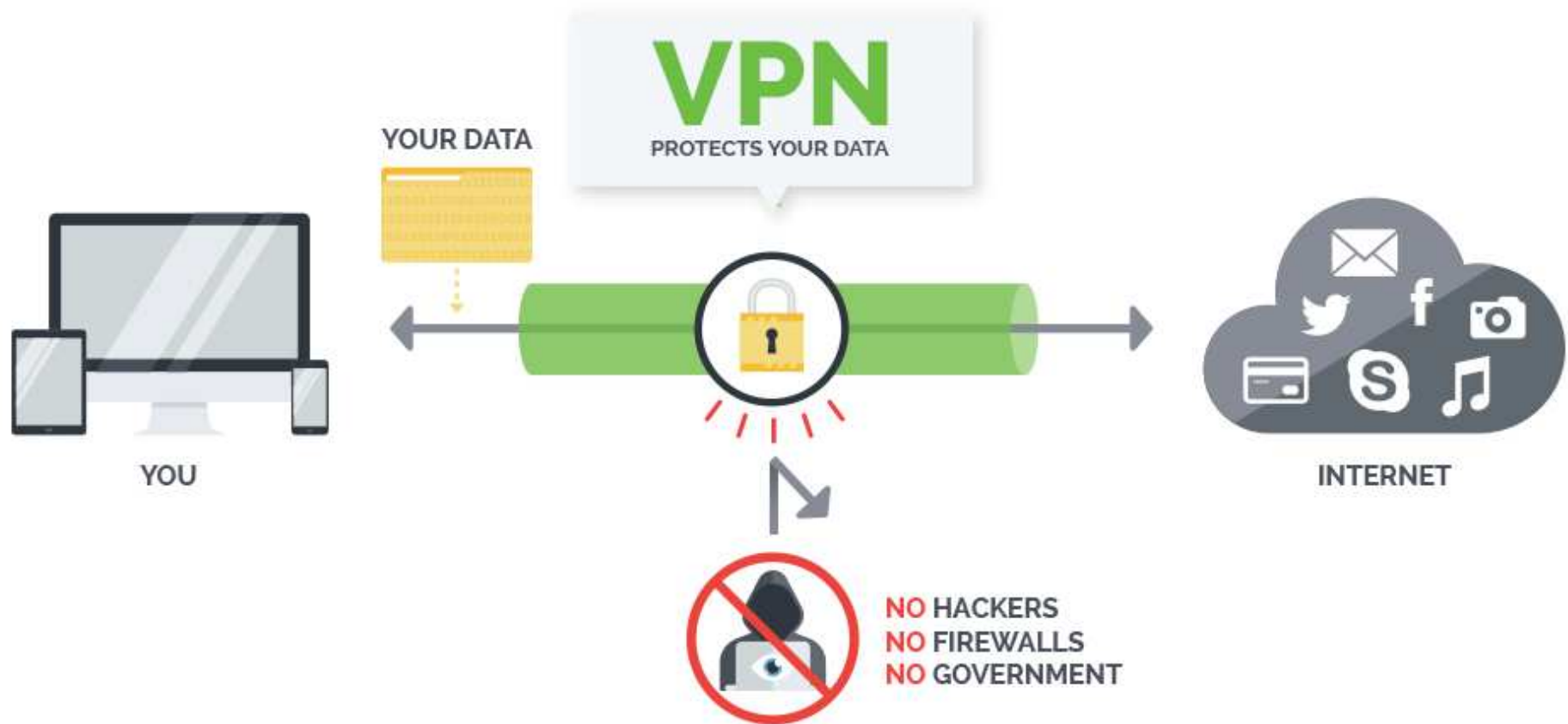
- HTTP traffic is in cleartext
- Much email traffic is in cleartext
- Many apps send data in cleartext

- Unencrypted data can be eavesdropped, tampered with

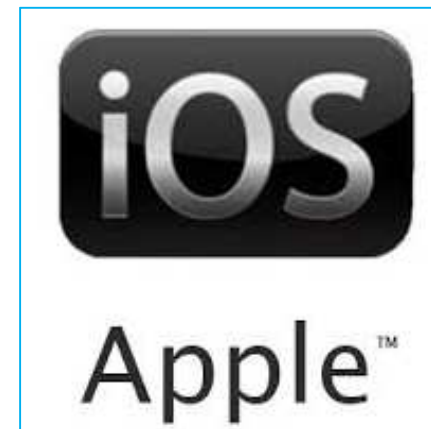
The Ir
unsafe



Tunnels make it safer!



Which devices can do this?



“I have nothing to hide!”

So why VPN?

- Access private network
- Pass data through secure network endpoint
 - Hide Internet activity
 - Protect integrity and confidentiality of your data
 - Protect confidentiality of where you're connecting to
 - Proxy for different country

VPN: the downsides

- More processing on your computer
- Another server between you and your destination — possible bottleneck
- Increased bandwidth consumption
- Not every VPN provider is trustworthy

Get a VPN Provider

Best choice (if you can get it): private VPN

- Employer
 - Policy on personal use?
- Google Fi

Public VPN

- Avoid free services
- Read terms of service, reviews to ensure privacy

Build your own?

Not needed (??)

- Cellular network*
- Secure home network*

Recommendations from the Punditocracy

- AnchorFree
- CyberGhost*
- ExpressVPN*
- NordVPN
- Private Internet Access*
- TunnelBear
- Turbo VPN

* *search for promo codes at MakeUseOf.com*

See Slate article: *Do You Trust Your VPN? Are You Sure?*

Other measures you can take

HTTPS Everywhere

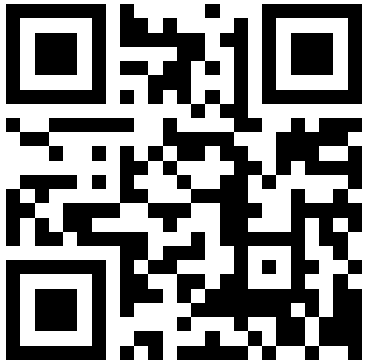
- free browser extension for Chrome/Firefox
- (created by Electronic Frontier Foundation)

Ensure email accounts using SSL/TLS

- depends on your mail provider



Let's be careful out there!



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