

High-Tech *High Style*

Whether you're out for a business meeting or working from the road, transporting office essentials is a breeze with these chic laptop totes



▼A bold carry-all offers storage and pockets aplenty for the multi-tasking woman. \$42 by Milano; Little Luxuries, Madison

» Protect your iPad or notebook computer with interior cushions and a sturdy (and sporty) nylon exterior. \$25 by Danica; Pop Deluxe, Madison

» Sling a comfy messenger-style bag over your shoulder for a stylish tote that boasts plenty of space for your laptop, cords, notebooks and other accessories. \$145 by Queen Bee Creations; Absolutely Art, Madison

» For daily toting here and there, keep your computer secure in a soft sleeve made from easy-to-clean wetsuit material. \$40 by Built; Pop Deluxe, Madison

Staying Safe in a Wi-Fi World

Whether you're connecting in a local coffee shop or international airport, Wi-Fi can expose your computer to more than just free internet—including some security risks. Stay safe with a few tips from Josh Epstein, customer support supervisor for Mad City Broadband

When possible, connect in places that require a password for the Wi-Fi. Though it might feel inconvenient to ask for a password to log on, the trouble can be worth it! A Wi-Fi connection with a password jumbles the information on your computer and makes it unreadable to potential eavesdroppers.

Minimize the distance between yourself and the Wi-Fi source. The first stop for information traveling from your computer is the Internet router, so the closer you are, the less room there is for a potential hacker to capture information.

Utilize secure websites. A secure web connection also mixes up, or encrypts, the information sent and received on your computer. An “https” webpage address, as opposed to “http,” found at the beginning of URLs indicates a secure connection.

Be wary of sketchy links. If you end up on a webpage you didn’t request, close your web browser and disconnect from the Wi-Fi.

Use basic virus protection. Install software to regularly scan your computer for infections. Because new viruses are constantly being updated, it’s also important to keep your virus protection up to date, too.

Avoid logging into accounts with sensitive information when using public Wi-Fi. If you do connect in public, just make sure you wait to pay your bills until you’re at home. Logging into accounts with personal information, such as bank or credit card accounts, while using an insecure connection could make you vulnerable to theft.