

Bruce Schneier

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Beyond Fear Thinking Sensibly about Security in an Uncertain World

Bruce Schneier
ISBN 0-387-02620-7
[Copernicus Books](#) - \$25.00
September 2003

*Does arming pilots make
flying safer?*

*Will computerized voting
machines make election
results more accurate?*

*Is online shopping with credit
cards especially risky?*

*Will a national ID card better
protect us from terrorism?*

If you read the newspapers or listen to the pundits you might answer "yes" to these questions, but the truth will surprise you. Security expert Bruce Schneier has spent his entire career figuring out how security actually works, and he explains it all in this entertaining and readable book. Beyond Fear goes beyond the hype, and explains how we all can think sensibly about security. In today's uncertain world, security is too important to be left to others. Drawing from his experience advising world business and political leaders, Schneier demonstrates the practical -- and surprisingly simple -- steps we can all take to address the real threats faced by our families, our communities, and our nation.

Security is not mysterious, Bruce Schneier tells us, and contrary to popular belief, it is

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Praise for Beyond Fear

"If you could only read one book about security, the book you should read is Beyond Fear."

*The Business and
Security e-
Journal*

"[H]ighly readable... a great introduction to a complicated and confusing topic."

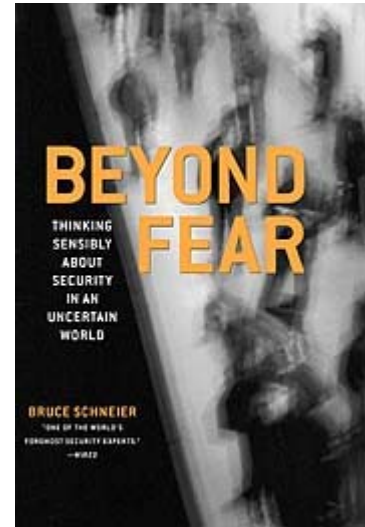
*Alex Salkever,
Businessweek
Online*

"[I]n my opinion, the best primer on security, one that can be understood by the man in the street.... The book is an

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New Book



**Beyond Fear: Thinking
Sensibly About Security in
an Uncertain World**
September 2003
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not hard. What is hard is separating the hype from what really matters. You already make security choices every day of your life, from what side of the street you walk on to whether you park your car under a streetlight. You do it naturally. This book guides you, step by step, through the process of making all your security choices just as natural.

Schneier invites us all to move beyond fear and to start thinking sensibly about security. He tells us why security is much more than cameras, guards, and photo IDs, and why expensive gadgets and technological cure-alls often obscure the real security issues. Using anecdotes from history, science, sports, movies, and the evening news, *Beyond Fear* explains basic rules of thought and action that anyone can understand and, most important of all, anyone can use. The benefits of Schneier's non-alarmist, common-sense approach to analyzing security will be immediate. You'll have more confidence about the security decisions you make, and new insights into security decisions that others make on your behalf. Whether your goal is to enhance security at home, at the office, and on the road, or to participate more knowledgeably and confidently in the current debates about security in our communities and the nation at large, this book will change the way you think about security for the rest of your life.

About Bruce Schneier

"...unquestionably the world's foremost security technologist...."

Stephen Ibaraki, Canadian Information Processing Society

entertaining read right through."

*- Sam Varghese,
Sydney Morning Herald*

"The questions in this book are not Left, or Right -- they are important. Schneier avoids the politics to get to a truth. This extraordinarily clear and powerful analysis by the leading thinker in security of our time gives everyone -- from policymakers to citizens -- a way of understanding, and resolving, one of the most important issues facing society today."

- Lawrence Lessig, Stanford Law

"...one of the most important texts of the decade."

*- Cory Doctorow,
Boing Boing*

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"Bruce is the first person I call when I need to understand a hard security question."

- Elinor Abreu, Reuters

"Schneier is a rare creature...Although he made his name as an alpha geek in cryptography and as chief technology officer of Net-security outfit Counterpane, [he] can also speak to laypeople about the general security matters that increasingly touch all of our lives."

- Alex Salkever, BusinessWeek Online

"One of the world's leading authorities on security trade-offs..."

- Jon Udell, InfoWorld

"A lot of security experts try to cow you with fear, uncertainty, and doubt. What's refreshing about Schneier is his clarity, directness, and honesty. You don't come away from reading him with the feeling you've been sold a bill of goods."

- Former District Attorney Philip Kamaras