PHISHING ATTACKS

A Prevention Checklist

What is Phishing?

A type of fraud in which emails pretending to be from reputable companies trick victims into providing personal information such as passwords and credit card numbers.

$8.64 MILLION A YEAR

Cybercrime costs U.S. businesses $8.64 million a year.[1]

1 CHECK THE SENDER'S ADDRESS

When you receive an email, always check that the sender's email address looks legitimate. **Lack of company details strongly suggests a phish.**

2 EMAIL IS NOT PERSONALIZED

Be alert to emails that are not personalized. **Emails should address you by name.**

3 VERIFY LINKS

Hover over any links in email messages and on websites to verify a link's actual destination. **Never click on links in unsolicited email messages.**

Simply clicking on links in phishing emails can **install malware or ransomware.**

91%

91% of advanced cyber attacks begin **with an email.**[2]

50%

of recipients open a phishing email and about 1/3 of them **click the phishing link in the email.**[3]
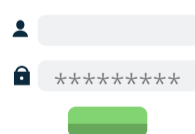
4 CHECK FOR TYPOS

Emails with typos and poor grammar **indicate a phish.**

5 EMOTIONALLY MANIPULATING VERBIAGE

Never respond to unsolicited emails that request personal information and use sensational phrases like "**URGENT**" or "**FINAL NOTICE.**"

The most popular type of phishing email requests the user to **update their password.**

28%

An average worker spends 28% of their **work week on emails.**[4]

6 HAS HTTPS OR PADLOCK ICON

Make sure any website you visit that contains or requests personal information is secure. **Look for https in the web address or a padlock icon in your browser window.** If a site is not secure, do not provide any personal data.

86%

data breaches are **financially motivated.**

LEARN MORE

To learn more about protecting your business from cyber threats like phishing, visit OnCourseLearning.com/CyberSecurity.

Sources:

1. *How Much Would a Data Breach Cost Your Business?*
2. *91% of All Cyber Attacks Begin with a Phishing Email to an Unexpected Victim*
3. *2018 Phishing Trends Report*
4. *The Social Economy: Unlocking Value and Productivity Through Social Technologies*

OnCourse Learning