

Phishing is when criminals try to trick you into doing something to benefit them, such as sharing credentials, transferring funds, or opening email attachments. These attacks often start with a phishing email.

Watch out for these ten telltale signs of phishing emails and make sure you don't take the bait.

- 1. It just doesn't look right. Trust your instincts.
- 2. Generic salutations. Beware of impersonal greetings like "Dear Customer."
- 3. Requests for sensitive data. Hackers spoof genuine websites and try to trick you into entering your information.
- 4. Specific information on you. Crooks use info found online to sound more convincing.
- 5. Scare tactics. Intimidating phrases are often used to get you to act without thinking.
- 6. Poor grammar or spelling. This is often a dead giveaway.
- 7. Sense of urgency. Beware of forced time pressure. It's a common tactic.
- 8. "You've won the grand prize!" These phishing emails are common, but easy to spot.
- 9. "Verify your account." Always question why you're being asked to verify.

10. Cybersquatting. Beware of lookalike URLs meant to trick you, such as www.g00gle.com or www.hotmai1.com.

> Learn more about phishing and how to stop it at sophos.com/prevent-phishing

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