



HOLIDAY SEASON TIPS

TOP TIPS TO STAY CYBERSAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



Information Technology Services

The holiday season is here! Which means it's that time of year when everyone is super busy. Unfortunately, it's also the time when malicious actors ramp up their efforts. They are counting on people being too busy and preoccupied with the holidays to thoroughly check their emails for phishing.

Common Tricks To Watch Out For

1

Online ads that lead to fraudulent online stores.

Malicious actors use ads online to try to get you to shop at fraudulent stores that steal your money, credit card details, or personal information.



2

Amazing deals!

Many schemes take advantage of popular holiday items or inflated travel costs to get you to buy fake tickets or items. If something seems too good to be true, it probably is.



3

Fraudulent orders placed, delivered or missed.

Malicious actors can send fraudulent messages claiming that your package has been delayed or that a fee must be paid before it can be delivered.



4

Impersonations of real companies or charities

Malicious actors create fake charities to trick you into sending money or sharing your personal information. Or claim to be from reputable websites.



How To Stay Safe

1

Shop on reputable sites

Avoid clicking on email links you receive. Navigate to the official website and if the deal is real, it will be there.

2

Always check the URL.

Malicious actors often create "look-a-like" websites or email addresses that use variations of trusted names to fool you. Be cautious if you experience hard-sell tactics such as a sense of urgency or vague language.

3

Be wary of suspicious links and messages.

Any email or text that you didn't expect should be treated with caution. Look out for the signs of a phishing scam. Such as the message containing a strange link or spelling, grammar, and formatting issues. As well as unknown senders.

How To Report

Any emails you receive in Outlook should be reported as Phishing. To do that first select the phishing email you want to report. Then select Report Message in the Outlook toolbar and choose Phishing in the drop-down menu. After, select Report to send Microsoft a phishing email notice. The email will then be moved to your Junk Email folder.