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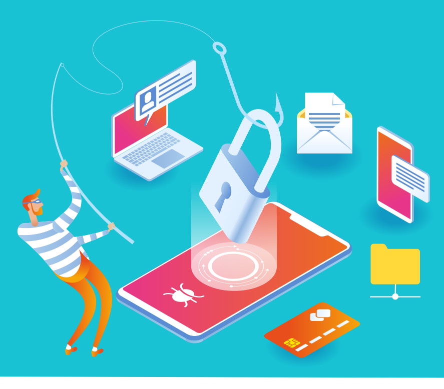
Stay Smart, Protect Yourself Against Phishing Attacks



Is your organization's cybersecurity robust enough to protect it against the next-generation of phishing scams?

Cybersecurity should never be an afterthought. Be smart and ensure that your cybersecurity measures are aligned with your strategies to identify/avoid/counter phishing attacks.

45,794	Number of unique phishing websites detected in Dec
87,386	Number of unique phishing email reports (campaigns) received by APWG from consumers in Dec

Source: 'Phishing Activity Trends Report (4th Quarter 2018)' by Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG)

Stop your business from taking the bait with the following tips

Think before you click

Never click on links in emails claiming to be from a legitimate business or organization. Many of these attacks download trojan horse virus on the computer when the link in the email is clicked on. Check the link and make sure the link is from a reputable source before clicking on it.

Don't get hooked

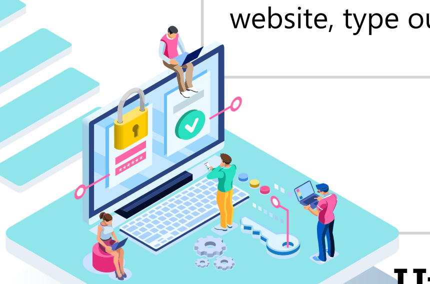
Stop and think before opening any attachments, especially from an unknown source, as they can be malicious. Double check if it is a legitimate email. If this is your corporate email, notify your IT staff.

Check website URL

Check the URL of the website as it may not be the real website. Prefer websites that use HTTPs rather than HTTP. Be sure to look at hyperlinks by hovering over them before you click. The text might look legitimate, but the actual redirect URL could be bogus. If you think you need to visit a website, type out its address in the search bar.

Do not reveal personal information

Never give up any personal information from an unsolicited email. Phishing emails will attempt to steal your personal data/information by pretending to be someone else. The letterhead might look official, but a legitimate organization will never email you to ask for your password or any other sensitive information. Legitimate organizations do not generally ask you to verify username and password, except for initial setup. If things look 'phishy', verify the sender through a different medium, for example by calling and confirming.



Up-to-date security measures

Install the latest patches and updates to protect against vulnerabilities and security issues. Detecting malicious activity, responding effectively and neutralizing the threat takes times and skill. Ensure your organization has the right tools and technologies, without which the intrusion could go unnoticed for months. Put anti-phishing protection measures at every point in your business.

Educate your users

Phishing relies on human errors. Training the users or your employees regularly is one of the most effective ways to eliminate threats. Organizations must conduct training and awareness workshops to make sure that the employees are aware of the do's and don'ts, and ways they can detect and prevent phishing attacks.

Be wary of emails asking you act urgently

Be cautious if an email uses urgent language or makes you offers and promises of rewards that are too good to be true.

Check for grammar/spelling errors

Many attackers are either not fluent in English, or they are not too bothered about spelling and grammatical mistakes. Check for poor spellings, typo/punctuation errors in the email, which could be a telltale sign of the fact that the sender is a scammer. Check for the salutation and closing off too, as they may be vague or worded incorrectly or oddly.

Write to us at

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About Happiest Minds Technologies

Happiest Minds, the Mindful IT Company, applies agile methodologies to enable digital transformation for enterprises and technology providers by delivering seamless customer experience, business efficiency and actionable insights. We leverage a spectrum of disruptive technologies such as: Big Data Analytics, AI & Cognitive Computing, Internet of Things, Cloud, Security, SDN-NFV, RPA, Blockchain, etc. Positioned as "Born Digital . Born Agile", our capabilities spans across product engineering, digital business solutions, infrastructure management and security services. We deliver these services across industry sectors such as retail, consumer packaged goods, edutech, e-commerce, banking, insurance, hi-tech, engineering R&D, manufacturing, automotive and travel/transportation/hospitality.

Headquartered in Bangalore, India; Happiest Minds has operations in the U.S., UK, The Netherlands, Australia and Middle East.

To know more about our offerings. Please write to us at **business@happiestminds.com**

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