

Intro to Cybersecurity

2.2.1 - Phishing



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Phishing

- Used in a majority of cyber attacks
- Considered one of top 4 biggest threats in the digital world
- It's not even real malware - there is no code. It is just a CON!



Source: <https://dilbert.com/strip/2005-08-12>



What is Phishing?

Definition: Phishing is the use of bogus emails and websites to trick you into supplying confidential or personal information.

1. You receive an email that appears to come from a reputable organization, such as a bank.
2. The email includes what appears to be a link to the organization's website.
3. If you follow the link, you are connected to a replica of the real website. Any details you enter, such as account numbers, PINs or passwords, can be stolen and used by the malicious actors who created the bogus site.

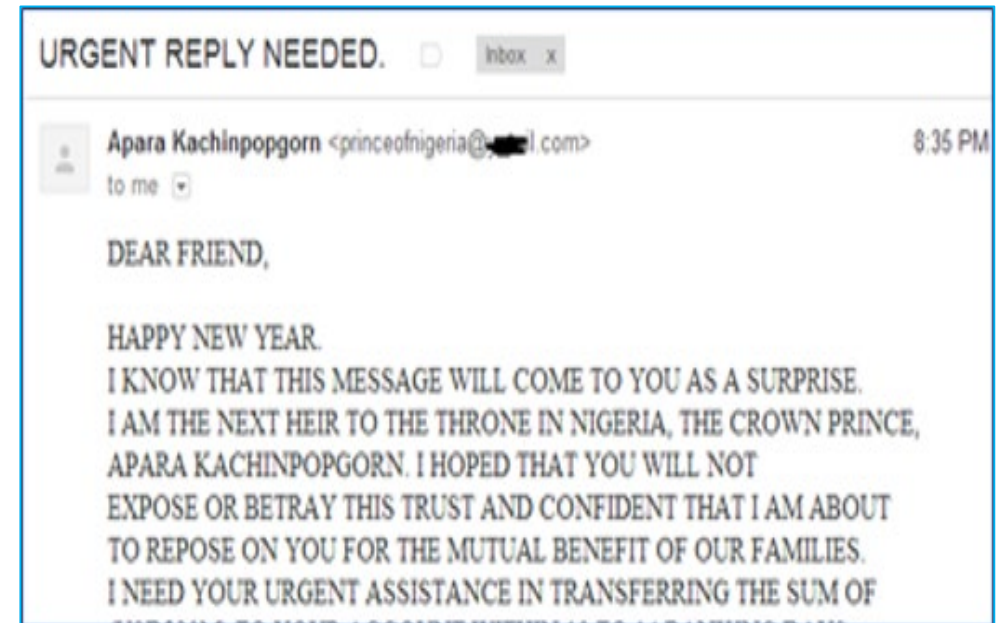


Example of phishing

Advance Fee Scam Story

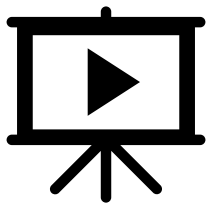
- BIG money is in a Nigerian bank account
- I need to move it to a foreign bank account
- I trust you & will give you BIG share if you let me deposit it to your bank account – just send me your bank account number and passport info

Nigerian prince letter



How to spot a phishing email

- Misspellings or incorrect grammar
- Sender and their email address don't seem to match
- Hover over link – the URL doesn't match the text



Watch: [Security Short: What is Email Phishing?](#)



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Special types of Phishing

- **Spear-phishing** is an email scam targeted towards a specific individual, organization or business.
- **Whaling** describes an email scam targeted to high-value individuals
- **Smishing** is text messages used for phishing
- **Vishing** is phone calls or voice messages for phishing



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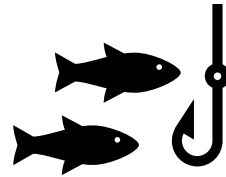
Phishing Attack or Spam Email?

Phishing

- Want personal information
- Specifically targeted
- Includes malicious links
- May contain malicious attachments
- Contains a sense of urgency
- Should be removed AND reported

Spam Email

- Unsolicited advertisements
- Sent to many recipients at once
- Has some legitimate links
- Not urgency
- Can be marked as spam





Intro to Cybersecurity

Activity – Phishing IQ Tests



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