

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.



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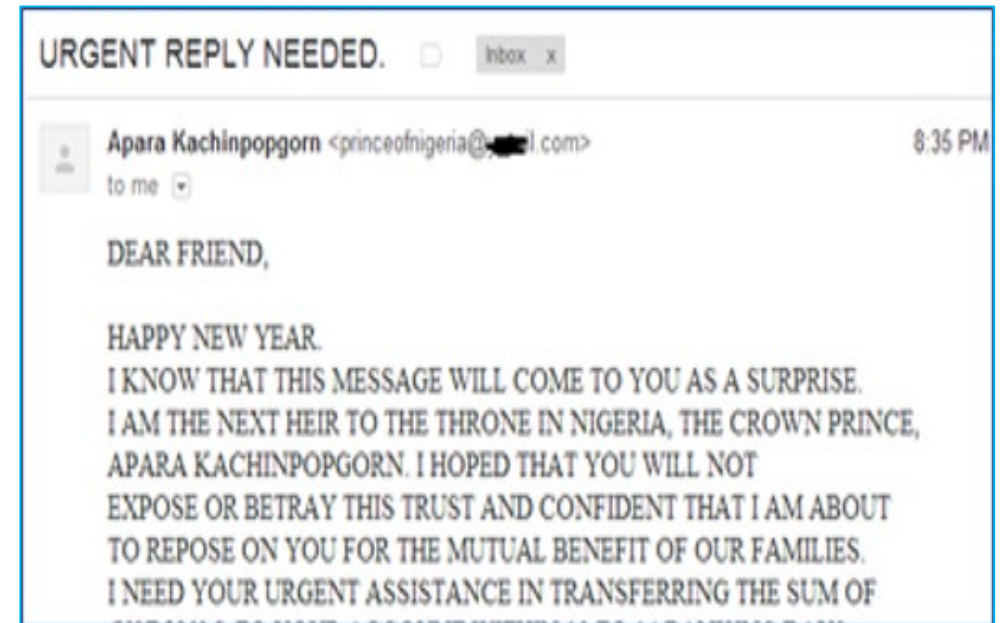
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Example of phishing

Advance Fee Scam Story

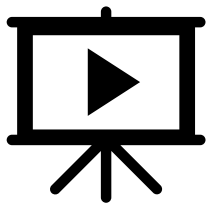
- BIG money is in a Nigerian bank account
- I need to move it to a foreign bank account
- I trust you & will give you BIG share if you let me deposit it to your bank account – just send me your bank account number and passport info

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?](#)



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



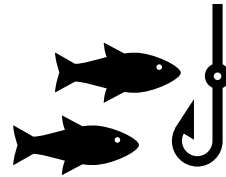
Phishing Attack or Spam Email?

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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