

DO NOT CLICK



Phishing is the fraudulent attempt by scammers to obtain sensitive information such as usernames, passwords and credit card details by disguising themselves as a trustworthy entity in an electronic communication. To protect yourself against a phishing attack, follow these five tips:

- 1 Keep your software current**
Having the latest security software, web browser, and operating system is the best defense against viruses, malware, and other online threats.
- 2 Type the website URL yourself. DO NOT CLICK!**
Rather than clicking a link provided in an email, even one that looks to be from a friend or an acquaintance, type the known URL (website name) yourself. The “friend” may be a cyber-criminal and the website may be a fake! Anyone can create a phony website that can infect your computer or steal your information.
- 3 Pick up the phone**
Never respond to emails that request personal or financial information. If you believe a company might actually need your personal or financial information, call the company yourself. Find the number independently. Do not use the phone number from the email!
- 4 When it doubt, throw it out**
Links in emails, social media posts, and online advertising are often how cyber-criminals try to steal your personal information. Even if you know the source, if something seems suspicious, do not respond and most importantly – delete!
- 5 Think before you act**
Be wary of anything that asks you to act immediately, sounds too good to be true, or asks for personal information.



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