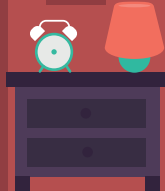


COMMON HOLIDAY PHISHING ATTACKS



Holiday Discounts

'Tis the season for getting sweet deals, and merchants will be sending out plenty of legitimate emails advertising their sales. Attackers will be sure to take advantage of the holiday sale noise by sneaking in phishing emails that masquerade as merchants offering blowout deals.



Charity Phish

Unfortunately, attackers take advantage of the fact that charities receive a high volume of donations in December. Beware of spoofed emails from common charities.



End of the Year Attacks

The end of the year provides attackers with a number of potential topics that allow them to take on an authoritative tone and create a sense of urgency for the recipient.



Holiday eCards

Who doesn't love to receive a nice holiday greeting? But is that link to an ecard actually from your coworker, manager, HR Department, etc. or is it something sinister? Disguising a phish as a holiday greeting is a simple and effective attack tactic every year.



Office Party Invitations

Many companies plan an office holiday party and send invitations over email. Attackers can spoof invitations and craft compelling holiday-themed phishing emails.



Travel Notifications

An email warning of flight itinerary changes will certainly grab the attention of an employee eager to get home for the holidays, so travel-related emails need to be viewed with suspicion.

Package Delivery

An email warning of problems with a package delivery plays on the recipient's emotions, and makes for an especially effective phishing email during the holiday season.



You are the last line of defense against phishing. If you receive a suspicious email, report it immediately.

