

Don't Get Scammed!



# Discussion Topics

- What is a Scam?
- Signs It Might Be a Scam
- E-Mail Scams
- Social Network Scams
- Website Scams
- How to Avoid Getting Scammed

# Scam

noun

°Fraudulent deal.

verb

°To defraud or embezzle.

# Signs It Might Be A Scam

- Scammers pretend to be from an organization you know.
- Scammers say there is a problem.
- Scammers say there is a prize.
- Scammers pressure you to act immediately.
- Scammers tell you to pay in a specific way.

# E-Mail Scams

ROYAL BANK  
of  
NIGERIA

I have emailed everyone  
I can possibly find, my Prince,  
but no-one wants to help  
you move your money.



# Common E-Mail Scams

- Nigerian Prince – still active. These days he is usually a Swedish widow or a British orphan. This scam is pre-internet and was originally known as the Spanish Prisoner.
- Phishing – one of the most popular. Scammers want to get network access to corporations, hospitals, schools, etc. First known phishing scam was on AOL.
- Credit Cards – the bank doesn't need to verify your data; some company is offering a low interest no fee card that you need to pay to activate.
- Disaster Relief, Ransomware, Free Vacations, Sweepstakes, and thousands more.



# Social Network Scams



Not surprisingly, most scams and hoaxes on Social Media Sites were originally e-mail scams.

Just like that Nigerian Prince, Mark Zuckerberg isn't really going to give his millions away to thank all of his faithful Facebook users.

Let's review some other common (mostly Facebook) scams.



**The first 500 people to share this post will win a free iPhone, gift certificate, RV, television, or something equally valuable**

Sorry, but you were number 501. You just gave some information to the scammer. There is a good chance that you also gave information about your friends.

**1000 likes isn't really going to get some child in Africa a much needed operation.**

Once there are enough likes, the post's popularity soars. The original poster can then change the content and replace it with something else – usually some kind of malware.

This is called “Link Farming”

**Only a genius can find the 5 among all the S's? Are you smart enough to find errors in a picture? Can you find the word "tiny" in this maze?**

All of these "brain" games really show how stupid people can be when they play them. The designers are likely just gathering data.

I've noticed that many people who share these posts often get a "virus" from somewhere.

# Why do scammers want you to “copy and paste” instead of “share”?

- 1) This creates a new instance of the message. If the original message gets deleted, the copy and shares still exist.
- 2) Then all your friends will see it. If they do the same more and more people make start posts.
- 3) This makes it much harder to track the original poster.

# Why Are There So Many Scams?

- Because they work
- Like Fox Mulder, people want to believe
- They all look so good
- Many people are just goodhearted
- They are easy for the con artists to use
- They are easy to constantly evolve





# Tips to Avoid Getting Scammed

- Stay alert and skeptical
- Block unwanted calls and text messages
- Never click on Hyperlinks you don't know
- Resist the pressure to act immediately
- Never wire money to a stranger
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is
- Stop and talk to someone you trust

# Stay Safe



# Future Topics

Subject to Change. Let me know subjects you would like.

April 04 About Android – Part 1

April 11 About Android – Part 2

April 18 About Android – Part 3

April 25 About Android – Part 4

THANKS FOR LISTENING 😊

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