

Phishing

Phishing is a type of cyber attack where attackers attempt to deceive individuals into providing sensitive information, such as passwords, credit card numbers, or other personal details. This is usually done through fraudulent emails, messages, or websites that appear to be from legitimate sources, such as banks, social media platforms, or trusted companies.

Key Characteristics:

- **Deceptive Appearance:** Phishing attempts often mimic the look and feel of legitimate communications, using official logos, similar email addresses, and convincing language.
- **Urgency and Fear Tactics:** Attackers often create a sense of urgency or fear to prompt quick action, such as claiming that an account has been compromised and needs immediate attention.
- **Malicious Links or Attachments:** Phishing emails typically contain links to fake websites designed to steal information or attachments that can install malware on a victim's device.

Common Types:

- **Email Phishing:** The most common form, where attackers send fraudulent emails to a wide audience.
- **Spear Phishing:** A targeted phishing attack aimed at a specific individual or organization, often using personalized information to increase credibility.
- **Smishing and Vishing:** Phishing attempts conducted via SMS (smishing) or voice calls (vishing), where attackers try to trick victims into revealing personal information over the phone or through text messages.