PHISHING AWARENESS GUIDE
Protecting Yourself Against Social Engineering Attacks

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INTRODUCTION

Phishing attacks are one of the most common forms of cybercrime, tricking victims into revealing sensitive information such as passwords, credit card details, or personal data. This guide provides simple steps to help individuals and employees recognize and avoid phishing attempts.

WHAT IS PHISHING?

Phishing is a fraudulent attempt to obtain sensitive information by pretending to be a trustworthy entity, often through email, SMS, or fake websites.

COMMON SIGNS OF A PHISHING EMAIL

✔ **Suspicious Sender Address** – Slight misspellings (e.g., support@paypa1.com instead of support@paypal.com).
✔ **Urgency or Threats** – "Your account will be suspended in 24 hours!"
✔ **Suspicious Links** – Hover over links; they may redirect to fake websites.
✔ **Poor Grammar and Spelling** – Many phishing emails have obvious mistakes.
✔ **Unsolicited Attachments** – Malware is often hidden in attachments.

BEST PRACTICES TO AVOID PHISHING

Verify sender information before clicking any link.
Never provide sensitive details through email.
Hover over links to check the actual URL.
Use Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) wherever possible.
Report phishing emails to your IT/security team immediately.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU FALL VICTIM

✔ Change your passwords immediately.
✔ Notify your bank or relevant organization.
✔ Scan your device for malware using antivirus tools.
✔ Report the incident to cybersecurity authorities.

CONCLUSION

Awareness is the best defense against phishing. By staying cautious and verifying suspicious emails, users can significantly reduce the risk of falling victim to cybercriminals.

APPENDIX (Sample Phishing Email)

Dear Customer,
We have detected unusual login attempts on your account and, for your security, your account will be suspended within 24 hours if not verified.
Please confirm your account information immediately to avoid service disruption.

Restore Account Now

Failure to verify may result in permanent account closure.
Thank you for your prompt attention.
Customer Service Team

Secure Bank Online Support

Restore Account Now

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GitHub: Phishing Awareness Guide