

Don't Look Productions

Cyber Education You Can't Afford to Ignore

February
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Issue

#1



Welcome to The Cyber Dirt!

My name is Andrea Harston and I am excited to bring you the first ever cyber newsletter from my new initiative called "Don't Look Productions". DLP brings you all the latest cyber tips such as; reports on the active threat landscape, training resources, where to earn CPEs, Cyber Conferences, Cybersecurity tips and more! We have to stay vigilant and aware if we want to counter the numerous threats to our digital safety.

Top Scams for February 2025

Phishing attacks around Valentine's Day often exploit the themes of love, romance, and gift-giving to trick people into clicking on malicious links or providing sensitive information. Here are some common phishing tactics that might be used around Valentine's Day:

Phony Florist Scam

- Research Trusted Sellers
- Don't click on any links in an email or ad

Romance Scams

- Be on the lookout for fake social media profiles. They usually are new accounts, or say things like "widower", "military" n to induce sympathy or excessive patriotism
- These scammers usually want to move fast, they aren't afraid to love bomb you with overly complimentary messages

- If the sender of the messages asks for any money or for you to give them any personal information, **just don't do it!**

Generic Delivery or subscription problems:

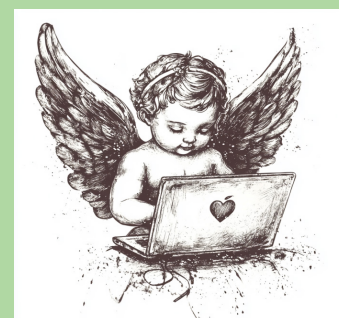
- Look for texts or emails saying there is a problem with your delivery or subscription, don't click on it or respond! ALWAYS go to the source.

Red Flags to Look For:

- Widower/Military
- Asks for money/Investment Scam
- No video chatting or very bad video
- Can't meet in person due to medical, accidents, work, etc
- Sad stories
- Suspicious Profiles
- Overly Complimentary

Resources and News

- [Report a Romance Scam](#)
- [Romance Scam Victim Tells Her Story](#)
- [FTC: "Not Love, Actually" Article and Resources](#)
- [AARP Fraud Network](#)
- [BBB Scam Trackers](#)
- [Stay Safe Online: Romance Scams](#)



Love in the Digital Age

This Valentine's Day, while you're sharing love notes and making plans with someone special, don't let cybercriminals crash your romantic mood. Scammers often target dating apps, social media, and email with fake profiles, phishing links, or "too-good-to-be-true" offers. Before clicking on that link to send a Valentine's e-card or buying a deal on a last-minute gift, double-check the source. Remember, true love doesn't ask for your credit card number! Keep your personal information private and ensure your devices are protected with up-to-date security software. Stay vigilant, and let the only thing stealing your heart this season be Cupid's arrow!

