**🛡️ Phishing Email Analysis Report**

**Cyber Security Internship – Week 2 Assignment**

**📌 Task**

Analyze a phishing email and identify red flags. This exercise builds awareness of phishing tactics and email threat detection skills.

**📧 Sample Phishing Email**

From: PayPaI Support <support@paypai-secure.com>

To: user@example.com

Subject: Urgent: Unusual Login Attempt Detected

Dear Customer,

We have detected an unusual login attempt on your PayPal account. For your security, we have temporarily limited your account access.

Please verify your identity immediately to avoid permanent suspension.

Click the link below to secure your account:

👉 http://paypai-secure-login.com/verify-now

If you do not respond within 24 hours, your account will be permanently disabled.

Thank you,

PayPal Security Team

Attachment: Secure\_Your\_Account.html

**🛠 Phishing Indicators Identified**

| **Indicator** | **Description** | **Evidence** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Spoofed Sender** | Misspelled domain name to mimic PayPal | [support@paypai-secure.com](mailto:support@paypai-secure.com) |
| **Fake Domain** | URL appears legitimate but is not | [http://paypai-secure-login.com](http://paypai-secure-login.com/) |
| **Urgency** | Pressures user to act fast | “Respond within 24 hours…” |
| **Suspicious Link** | Link leads to a phishing site | Hover reveals mismatch |
| **Attachment** | Unusual file included | Secure\_Your\_Account.html |
| **Generic Greeting** | No personal name used | “Dear Customer” |

**🧠 Summary**

This email demonstrates multiple phishing indicators such as spoofed sender identity, fake domain URLs, fear-based language, generic greetings, and a potentially malicious attachment. These red flags are typical in phishing campaigns aimed at harvesting credentials or distributing malware. Recognizing such tactics is essential to avoid falling victim to email-based attacks.

**🧪 Tools Used**

* [MxToolbox Email Header Analyzer](https://mxtoolbox.com/EmailHeaders.aspx)
* Manual inspection and security awareness techniques