Social engineering

What is the social engineering?

Social engineering is a psychological attack where an attacker tricks you into doing something you should not do through various manipulation techniques. Think of scammers or con artists; it is the same idea. However, today's technology makes it much easier for any attacker from anywhere in the world, to pretend to be anything or anyone they want, and target anyone around the world, including you. Social engineering refers to crafty ways hackers trick unsuspecting victims into downloading malware, and/or leaking credentials via social platforms. The types of social engineering include:

Phishing/vishing/smishing: Fraudulent emails or voice messages or text messages are used to extract personal information or download malware.

Spear-phishing: Phishing that is custom-tailored to target key employees, particularly C-level ones, via social media or email.

Baiting: Using a lure such as planting an infected device or the promise of the latest movie to get victims to bite the bait.

Pre-texting: Using false impersonation to gain the victim's confidence – a call from your bank's customer support team asking for your credentials to prevent an "unauthorized withdrawal".

Common Clues to a Social Engineering Attack:

An overwhelming sense of urgency or crisis. Attackers are trying to get you to make a mistake. The greater the sense of urgency, the greater the likelihood of an attack.

Pressure to bypass or ignore security policies or procedures that you are expected to follow at work.

Requests for sensitive information they should not have access to or should already know, such as your account numbers.

An email or message from a friend or colleague you know, but the message doesn't look like it - maybe the wording is weird or the signature is incorrect.

An email that appears to be from a legitimate co-worker or company, but the email is sent using a personal email address like @gmail.com.

Playing on your curiosity or something is too good to be true. For example, you are notified that your parcel has been delayed, even though you never ordered a package or won a prize in a contest you never participated in.

If you suspect that someone is trying to deceive or deceive you, do not contact them anymore. Remember, common sense is your best defense.