

# Digital threats: Phishing and spam

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This article reviews what **spam** and **phishing** are, as well as **how to protect yourself**.

## See also:

- [Digital threats: Doxxing](#)
- [Digital threats: Ransomware](#)
- [Information Security Education Program](#)

## Phishing

Phishing is **any communication** with the purpose of **gaining your personal information** to compromise your account. **Attackers will use your account** to send similar messages to unsuspecting recipients.

## Note: Phishing comes in many forms!

- Email
- Text
- QR code
- Phone call

**From:** domain@domain-name.com  
**To:** Your email  
**Subject:** Apple Facetime Information Disclosure



## National Security Department

A vulnerability has been identified in the Apple Facetime mobile applications that allow an attacker to record calls and videos from your mobile device without your knowledge.

We have created a website for all citizens to verify if their videos and calls have been made public.

To perform the verification, please use the following link:

**Facetime Verification**

This website will be available for 72 hours.

National Security Department

## Identifying phishing

- **Threatening** or **aggressive** language
- **Time-sensitive** actions
- Convincing you to **click a link** or **reply**

**Attention:** Email addresses can be **hidden** or **spoofed**, allowing attackers to disguise themselves as trusted individuals. You can determine the true sender of an email by **clicking** or **tapping the From address**.

**Before:**



Dell Notifications  
To You

10:47 AM



After:



**Dell Notifications**  
no-reply@notifications.dell.com



To You

Thursday, September 25 at 10:47 AM

## I think I'm compromised!

1. [Change your College password](#)
2. Contact the [Help Desk](#)

## Spam

Spam is **unsolicited email**. Much like physical junk mail, spam can simply be **deleted** or **ignored**. Microsoft 365's Online Protection features automatically identify and block spam emails – but **no anti-spam solution is perfect!**

Hey there,

As a valued employee at Bryn Mawr College, you may not know this, but you are eligible for a complimentary one-on-one pension review meeting with a licensed advisor.

In your meeting, you'll get the answers to important questions such as:

1. How much will I retire with?
2. Will I have enough to live off of?
3. Which options will give me guaranteed income?
4. Which options best fit my retirement goals?

[Click Here to Schedule Your Meeting](#)


All representatives are independent and not employed by your employer.

## Identifying spam

**Warning:** Never click a link or attachment from an **unknown sender**. Attackers can include **malware that infects your device**. Unsure if an email is legitimate? Forward it to the [Help Desk](#) for review!

- Advertising an **item or service** for purchase
- Offers of **free** meetings, consultations, or items

## Blocking spam

- **Do not respond** to unknown senders
- [Mark items as Junk](#) 
- Report messages to the [Help Desk](#)
- Be wary of sites **asking for your College email**

## Questions?

If you have any additional questions or problems, don't hesitate to reach out to the **Help Desk**!

**Phone:** 610-526-7440 | [Library and Help Desk hours](#) 

**Email:** [help@brynmawr.edu](mailto:help@brynmawr.edu) | [Service catalog](#) 

**Location:** Canaday Library 1st floor

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