

December

Cyber Scams and Phishing

Don't be a victim of cyber scams and phishing!



Today we are more connected than ever. Learn how to use technology wisely and be aware of online risks.

Most common types of cyber scams

Phishing and Smishing is a technique to “fish” or obtain usernames, passwords, and other sensitive information, from a “sea” of users – through emails or text messages.

Phishing emails and smishing text messages may look like they're from someone or a company you know or trust.

- These messages urge you to click a link, open an attachment, call a number or contact an email address.
- The victim is then tricked into providing their personal information and credentials to other websites or services.



Fake apps are applications created by cybercriminals to cause harm to users and their devices. They are designed to resemble legitimate apps but instead monitor your activity, install malware, or steal your personal information.

Websites that sell fake products. These sites offer low priced high-demand products that never arrive.

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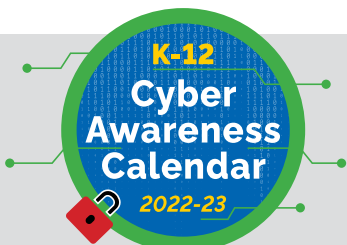
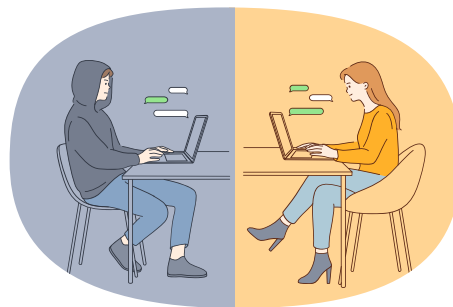
How to avoid scams

- Do not open attachments, do not click links and do not respond to suspicious messages – ask questions, consult people you trust, or contact the sender using an alternative communication method
- Avoid suspicious apps and deny permissions for something the app shouldn't be doing
- Always use secure sites (**look for the S in https://**) when shopping or logging into your accounts online
- Buy products from known marketers only
- Do not post personal information on social media



If you think you may be a victim of a scam

- Stop all communication with the scammer
- Seek help from an adult you trust
- Report the scam to your local police



Resources:

Report a scam or fraud
Phishing: Don't get reeled in
Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre (1-888-495-8501)

