

Spot Phishing Tricks: Red Flags Before You Click

Most phishing scams share a few common signals. If you spot any of these **RED FLAGS**, slow down!



Watch for these common signals:

1 Urgency: “Act now,” “expires in 15 minutes,” or “your account will be locked.”



2 Unexpected requests: a login, payment, or code you weren’t anticipating.



3 A code you didn’t request: especially one for a Microsoft or Google sign-in.



4 Links that look “almost right”: hover over them first to see where they really lead.



5 QR codes in messages or attachments: treat them like any other unknown link.



6 Pressure to keep it quiet or skip normal steps: real requests can wait for a quick check.



When a message feels off, pause before you click and verify the sender using contact details you already trust. Never enter a code or password you didn’t request. If something still seems wrong, report it to your IT Help Desk, delete the message and always ask a question when you’re unsure. Taking a few minutes now can help you avoid a costly mistake later.