Talk Nerdy To Me

5 WAYS TO SPOT FAKE EMAILS AND STAY SAFE

The best protection is education.

These days, it is getting harder to recognize a fake or spoofed email because they look more and more legitimate. Opening a fake email, especially with a link or an attachment, can cause serious damage to your computer and your company's network. Some fake emails can infect or encrypt your devices while others simply steal your sensive imformation. Even with protections like a firewall or a spam filter in place, these emails can still come through. While it is VERY important to have every possible protection in place, the best protection is education. Here are a few quick tips to spotting a fake or spoofed email.

NO PERSONALIZATION OR CONTACT INFORMATION
The email contains a generic salutation and/or lacks any contact informationfor the recipient to use if they have questions.

SPELLING AND GRAMMER ERRORS
The email contains clear spelling or grammatical erros. Emails from legitimate companies are normally proof read extensively before sending.

REQUESTS PERSONAL INFORMATION
The email requests that you follow a link to log in, or requests personal information such as a credit card number or password.

HIGH URGENCY OR THREATS
The email creates a high sense of urgency, or threatens consequesnces for inaction.

FAKE ADDRESSES OR WEBLINKS
The sender's displayed name and email address do not match the purported company the email represents, or the links send the recipient to other websites not associated with the purported company.

Interested in learning more? Cotact us today on how we can train your company to be vigilent and keep your network safe.

Spooked About Your Network's Security?

Not too long ago, in a place not so far away...when ancient hordes attacked your city, a single breach in the wall could mean certain death – or at least the end of life as you know it.

Yet times change…or do they?

Attacks by today's cybercriminals on your network, while perhaps not physically life threatening, can inflict severe damage to the life and health of your business.

FACT: The odds of a successful cyber-attack against your business today are one in five. And, at a typical cost of $300,000 or more, a full 60% of smaller businesses that suffer a breach shut their doors for good within six months.

So, who's *"guarding the gate"* at your company's network?

The problem with keeping your network safe today is that these attacks don't just happen randomly – they are constant and unrelenting. Ever more sophisticated "robot" software is making it easier than ever for attackers to stalk the Internet, probing for vulnerabilities 24/7.

Here are just a few of the ways these vigilantes can penetrate your network's defenses:

Open Ports – An open port is basically a channel for Internet data to connect with devices on your network. A firewall normally filters data, but hacker "web-bots" constantly probe for vulnerabilities. When they find an open port, and if they have

installed malicious code inside your system, *they are then able to control your devices.*

Malware and Viruses – Unfortunately, anti-malware and antivirus software programs in reality often fall short of claims, leaving many networks highly vulnerable. The problem is twofold: First, they only detect a breach after the malware or virus has infected your system. Second, detection solutions often lag behind the latest threats by days or even weeks, leaving a big window for them to inflict heavy damage.

Targeted E-mails – Cybercriminals seem to get better each day at creating enticing e-mails that innocent readers will click on without a moment's thought. If that reader happens to be on your network, you now have yet another hidden attacker to deal with.

In a **DDoS attack**, a network of computers attacks a single server with a surge of traffic, forcing it to crash. To avoid getting shut down, you need a defense plan in place and around-theclock monitoring.

Hiring experts to ensure your IT systems are secure just makes sense. It is paramount that your company have the neccessary protections in place to protect your data. Don't trust your company's critical data and operations to just anyone. Give us a call today for a FREE network assessment and we'll show you why we are the best consultants for your business.

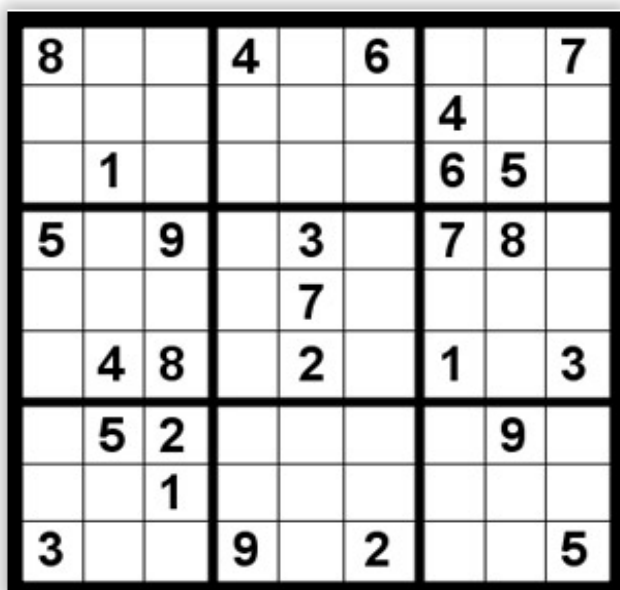# BEFORE THE BREACH

HACKERS ARE HERE!

NEW SKILLS FOR A NEW FIGHT

- 1 in 5 businesses will suffer a cyber breach this year
- 81% of all breaches happen to small/medium sized businesses
- 66% of companies do NOT test their backups
- 60% of companies that lose their data will go out of business within 6 months
- 92% of malware is delivered via email
- 97% of breaches could have been prevented with today's technology

Want to learn more about how to protect your business?

Sign up today for our Cyber Security Lunch and Learn on June 14th!

www.preferreditgroup.com/beforethebreach

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PREFERRED IT EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Meet Trevor Curry, one of our awesome help desk technicians. Trevor has been a technician with Preferred IT Group since January 2018, but he has been hanging around our offices for much longer than that. Since 2008 to be precise! Trevor's dad use to work for us and Trevor would come hang out after school. He even had his own cublicle. We're very lucky to have a second generation work for our company. Trevor's friendly and welcoming personality makes him a favorite of one of our biggest clients.

Trevor enjoys the outdoors fishing, camping, hiking and kayaking. He also enjoys making his own wine with his dad.

PITG TEAM BUILDING

The first weekend in June was quite the weekend for PITG team building. On Saturday, we started with a fishing trip in Michigan City, which was quite the experience for the only girl on the boat who has never fished before!

On Sunday, we took our families for an afternoon of baseball at the Fort Wayne TinCaps stadium.

4TH ANNUAL CHARITY EVENT

Our 4th annual charity event for Children's Sanctuary was a success! We were able to raise over $6,500 for local Fort Wayne foster kids. A huge thank you to everybody that attended and helped make this event so successful. And we especially want to thank all of the local businesses that donated to our silent auction.

Our 2019 poker event winners are:
1st Place: Jon Gallmeyer
2nd Place: Matt Hart
3rd Place: Amy Horne

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