

## Welcome to the NIST Phish Cues Survey

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is conducting an anonymous survey to understand how visually observable characteristics of phishing emails impact how people interpret a phishing email. This is your opportunity to help us understand how people decide whether an email is a phish and what visually stands out in phishing emails. Your responses will help NIST to further its research goals on this important cybersecurity issue and its evaluation of phishing awareness training methods. By participating, your contribution will be of great value to both our research efforts at NIST and the cybersecurity awareness training of your organization.

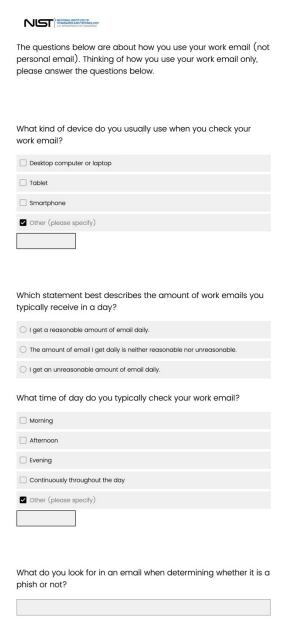
This survey should take no more than 20 minutes to complete. The survey responses are confidential and your information is strictly anonymous. Your participation is voluntary. You may choose to skip any question or quit the survey at any time. If you quit the survey, any answers that have already been provided will be retained. Once the survey is completed and submitted, your answers cannot be withdrawn. The anonymous survey results may be shared publicly. If you have any questions about this study, please contact Shanée Dawkins at shanee.dawkins@nist.gov.

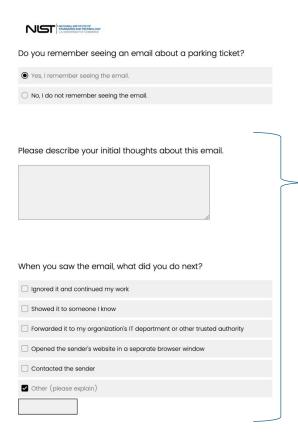
If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact the NIST Research Protections Office and/or Institutional Review Board at 301-975-5445 or email rpoffice@nist.gov.

OMB Control #0693-0089 Expiration Date: 09/30/2024

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 unless the information collection has a currently valid OMB Control Number. The approved OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0693-0089. Without this approval, we could not conduct this survey/information collection. Public reporting for this information collection is estimated to be approximately 15 minutes, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. All responses to this information collection are voluntary. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the National Institute of Standards and Technology at: 100 Bureau Drive, Attn: Shanée Dawkins.

I understand that by clicking "Next", I am choosing to take part in this research study voluntarily.





The wording of this question ("parking ticket") is conditional. The subject of the email depends on the email template the participant receives.

These questions are conditional – whether participants are asked or not depends on the participant's responses to earlier questions.

NIST NAME AND THE TOP OF COMMENT  STANDARD AND TOP OF COMMENT  STANDARD AN
You recently received the email shown in the picture.
Placeholder for image of phishing email
r tacenotide for image of prinsing email
Does this email look familiar? (select one)
Yes, I have seen this email before.
O No, this email does not look familiar.

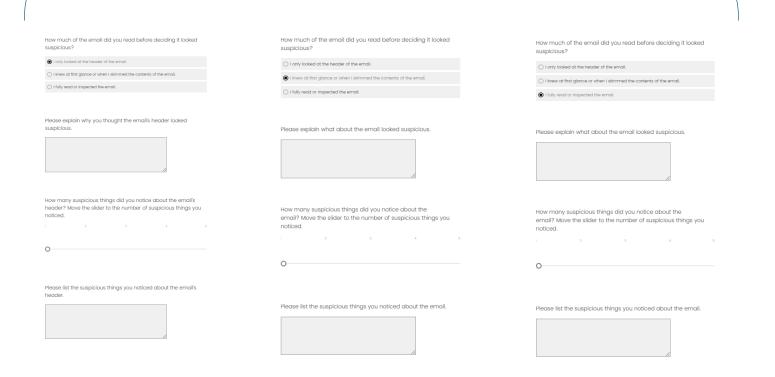
This page is conditional – whether participants are asked this question or not depends on the participant's responses to earlier questions.

Placeholder images throughout this file are dependent on the email template the participant

Powered by

## You recently received the email shown in the picture. Thinking back to when you first saw the email, please respond to the questions below: Placeholder for image of phishing email Did you notice anything unusual about the email? Yes, I thought the email looked suspicious. No, I thought the email looked legitimate. How much of the email looked legitimate. I noly looked at the header of the email. I knew at first glance or when I skimmed the contents of the email.

These questions are conditional – whether participants are asked these questions or not depends on the participant's responses to earlier questions.



## Page 4

How much of the email did you read before deciding it looked legitimate?	How much of the email did you read before deciding it looked legitimate?	How much of the email did you read before deciding it looked legitimate?
1 only looked at the header of the email.	I only looked at the header of the email.	
I knew at first glance or when I skimmed the contents of the email.		I only looked at the header of the email.
I fully read or inspected the email.	I knew at first glance or when I skimmed the contents of the email.	I knew at first glance or when I skimmed the contents of the email.
	I fully read or inspected the email.	I fully read or inspected the email.
Please explain why you thought the email's header looked legitimate.	Please explain why you thought the email looked legitimate.	Please explain why you thought the email looked legitimate.
	de de	

Did you notice anything unusual about the email?

Yes, I thought the email looked suspicious.

How much of the email did you read before deciding it looked

1 only looked at the header of the email.

These questions are conditional – whether

participants are asked these questions or not depends on the participant's responses to earlier questions.

					Thinkin	-		v the email, please answer the		otherwise noted.						
							Placeholder for im	age of phishing email		c c c	lue lac on ire on t oart	stio eho ditio ask he icip	ons olde ona ced em oan	beler in left	ow to maga whe not of the magain to the maga	they nds the only
								How many of the fo	ollowing	if any	, did v	ou noti	ice in t	he em	ail?	
How many of the fol	lowing	g, if any	, did yo	ou noti	ce in th	ne emo	il?	,		,	, ,				ſm not	
	0	1	2	3	4	5	I'm not sure		0	1	2	3	4	5	sure	
Links where the text did not match the URL	0	0	0	0	0	0	•	Imitation of well-known branding or logos	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Links that appeared to be from well-known websites	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Out-of-date branding or logos from well-known brands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Attachments Other suspicious things you	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Content or formatting that appeared to be unprofessional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
noticed in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Unexpected security icons or text.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
								Other suspicious things you noticed in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
How many of the fol	llowing	g, if any	y, did y	ou noti	ice in th	ne emo		How many of the fo	llowing, i	if any,	did yo	ou notic	ce in th	e emo		
	0	1	2	3	4	5	i'm not sure		0	1	2	3	4	5	im not sure	
Legal language like copyright information, disclaimers, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Spelling errors Grammar errors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Details unrelated to the email's message	0	0	$\circ$	0	0	0	0	Inconsistencies within the email's message, sender's information, and/or	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Requests for sensitive or personal information	0	0	0	0	0	$\circ$	0	attachments  Other suspicious things you								
Pressure or urgency to do something quickly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	noticed in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Threats of consequences for not doing something	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Other suspicious things you noticed in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
How many of the fo	ollowin	ng, if ar	ny, did	you no	tice in	the em	nail?									
	0	1	2	3	4	5	ľm not sure									
Requests to help, contribute, or donate to others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Offers that appeared too good to be true	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Suggestions that something special was just for you	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Offers granted only for a limited time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									
Other suspicious things you noticed in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0									

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Now we will ask you questions about specific parts of the email.

Page 5 OR Page 6 is asked

depending on their previous

questions on pages 5 and 6

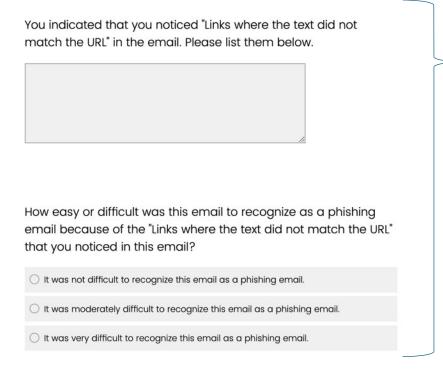
to the participant,

survey responses. All

are conditional unless

How many of the fo	llowing, if any, c	lo you notice in t	he email?
	0	1	I'm not sure
Email's sender name does not match their email address	0	0	0
Email's sender address appears to be from a well-known website	0	0	0
Is the email missing	expected bran	ding or logos?	
O Yes, I noticed. (please	e describe)		
No, I didn't notice.			
No, this is not in the er	mail.		
○ I'm not sure.			
low many of the	following, if a	ny, do you noti	ce in the email?
How many of the Email is missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting			
Email is missing an appropriate formal or			
Email is missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting Email is not			
Email is missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting  Email is not personalized for you Body of the email is missing the sender's name or contact information	o O O following, if a	ny, do you noti	fm not sure
Email is missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting  Email is not personalized for you  Body of the email is missing the sender's name or contact information  How many of the			fm not sure
Email is missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting  Email is not personalized for you Body of the email is missing the sender's name or contact	o O O following, if a	ny, do you noti	fm not sure

For pages 5 and 6, these questions are also conditional – whether they are asked or not depends on the email template the participant



For pages 5 and 6, the wording of these questions is conditional. For each item in the first grid question, these questions are asked depending on participant responses.



Please indicate how applicable the email was to your

responsibilities at work, if at all:
The email had <b>no applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
The email had <b>low applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
The email had <b>moderate applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
The email had <b>significant applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
The email had <b>extreme applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
What type of device were you using when you first saw the email?
○ Tablet
○ Smartphone

For pages 5 and 6, these questions are asked to all participants and are not conditional.

Requests for sensitive or personal information Pressure or urgency to do something quickly Threats of consequences for not doing something Other suspicious things you notice in the email (please specify)

						Using the screen capture of the email shown, please respond to the following questions.					Page 5 OR Page 6 is asked to the participant, depending on their previous survey responses.								
							will ask you	holder for image of phishing email  further questions about things that may or in the email.	bi pa di ai	rand age ffer and p	chir 5. enc pag	ng i Th ce b e 6	e o oetv	lent nly wee the	tical to en page 5 wording				
						may no	. Do preser	in the circuit.											
How many of the follow	ving, if	any, a	do you	notice	in the	emai	1?	How many of the follo	owing, if	any, c	lo you	notice	in the	emai	1?				
							f								fm not				
	0	1	2	3	4	5	Im not sure		0	1	2	3	4	5	sure				
Links where the text does not	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Spelling errors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
match the URL			0					Grammar errors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Links that appear to be from well-known websites	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	inconsistencies within the emails message, sender's information,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Attochments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	and/or attachments											
Other suspicious things you notice in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Other suspicious things you notice in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
How many of the follo	wing, i	if any,	do you	u notic	e in th	ne emo	m not	How many of the follo	owing, i	f any,	do yo	u notio	ce in t	he em	nail?				
imitation of well-known branding								Requests to help, contribute, or	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
or logos	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	donate to others	O	0	O	0	0		0				
Out-of-date branding or logos from well-known brands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Offers that appear too good to be true  Suggestions that something	0	0	0	0	0	0					
Content or formatting that appear to be unprofessional	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	special is just for you	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
Unexpected security icons or text.  Other suspicious things you	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Offers granted only for a limited time  Other suspicious things you	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
notice in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	notice in the email (please specify)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
How many of the follow	ing, if	any, d	lo you	notice	in the	emai	1?												
							ſm not												
Legal language like copyright information, discialmere, etc.	0	0	2	3	4	5	sure												
Details unrelated to the email's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0												
message  Requests for sensitive or personal information	0	0	0	0	0	0	0												
Pressure or urgency to do something quickly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0												
Threats of consequences for not doing something	0	0	0	0	0	0	0												
Other suspicious things you notice in the email (please			0		0														

may not be present	t in the email.		
How many of the fo	ollowing, if any,	do you notice ir	the email?
	0	1	I'm not sure
Email's sender name does not match their email address	0	0	0
Email's sender address appears to be from a well-known website	0	0	0
Yes, I noticed. (please  No, I didn't notice.  No, this is not in the e			
○ I'm not sure. ow many of the	following, if c	ıny, do you no	otice in the email?
	following, if c	ıny, do you no	otice in the email?
ow many of the			
Email is missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting			
Email is missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting Email is not personalized for you Body of the email is missing the sender's name or contact information	o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o o	iny, do you no	I'm not sur
Email is missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting Email is not personalized for you Body of the email is missing the sender's name or contact information			I'm not sur

You indicated that you noticed "Links where the text did not match the URL" in the email. Please list them below.
How easy or difficult was this email to recognize as a phishing email because of the "Links where the text did not match the URL" that you noticed in this email?
It was not difficult to recognize this email as a phishing email.
It was moderately difficult to recognize this email as a phishing email.
It was very difficult to recognize this email as a phishing email.
Please indicate how applicable the email was to your responsibilities at work, if at all:
The email had <b>no applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
The email had <b>low applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
The email had <b>moderate applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
The email had <b>significant applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.
The email had <b>extreme applicability</b> to my work responsibilities.



What is your level of confidence in identifying an email as a phishing email because of the following?

	No confidence	Low confidence	Neither high nor low confidence	High confidence	Extremely high confidence
Links where the text did not match the URL links.	0	0	0	0	0
Links that appear to be from well-known websites.	0	0	0	0	0
Attachments.	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
The email's sender name did not match their email address.	0	0	0	0	0
The email's sender address appears to be from a well-known website.	0	0	0	0	0

	Extremely unlikely	Unlikely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Likely	Extremely likely
Links where the text did not match the URL links.	0	0	0	0	0
Links that appear to be from well-known websites.	0	0	0	0	0
Attachments.	0	0	0	0	0
The email's sender name did not match their email address.	0	0	0	0	0
The email's sender address appears to be from a well-known website.	0	0	0	0	0

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What is your level of confidence in identifying an email as a phishing email because of the following?

	No confidence	Low	Neither high nor low confidence	High confidence	Extremely high confidence
Imitation of well- known branding or logos.	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-date branding or logos from well- known brands.	0	0	0	0	0
Content or formatting that appears to be unprofessional.	0	0	0	0	0
Unexpected email security icons or text.	0	0	0	0	0
Missing expected branding or logos.	0	$\circ$	0	0	0

	Extremely unlikely	Unlikely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Likely	Extremely likely
Imitation of well- known branding or logos.	0	0	0	0	0
Out-of-date branding or logos from well- known brands.	0	0	0	0	0
Content or formatting that appears to be unprofessional.	0	0	0	0	0
Unexpected email security icons or text.	0	0	0	0	0
Missing expected	0	0	0	0	0



What is your level of confidence in identifying an email as a phishing email because of the following?

	No confidence	Low confidence	Neither high nor low confidence	High confidence	Extremely high confidence
Legal language like copyright information, disclaimers, etc.	0	0	0	0	0
Details unrelated to the email's message.	0	0	0	0	0
Requests for sensitive or personal information.	0	0	0	0	0
Pressure or urgency to do something quickly.	0	0	0	0	$\circ$
Threats of consequences for not doing something.	0	0	0	0	0
Missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting.	0	0	0	0	0
Not personalized for you.	0	0	0	0	0
Body of email missing email sender's name or contact information.	0	0	0	0	0

	Extremely unlikely	Unlikely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Likely	Extremely likely
Legal language like copyright information, disclaimers, etc.	0	0	0	0	0
Details unrelated to the email's message.	$\circ$	0	0	$\circ$	0
Requests for sensitive or personal information.	0	0	0	0	0
Pressure or urgency to do something quickly.	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$
Threats of consequences for not doing something.	0	0	0	0	0
Missing an appropriate formal or informal greeting.	0	0	0	0	0
Not personalized for you.	0	$\circ$	0	0	0
Body of email missing email sender's name or contact information.	0	0	0	0	0

	Extremely unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Somewhat likely	Extremely likely
Requests to help, contribute, or donate to others.	0	0	0	0	0
Offers that appear too good to be true.	0	0	0	0	0
Suggestions that something special is just for you.	0	0	0	0	0
Offers granted only for a limited time.	0	0	0	0	0
Email appears to be work-related.	0	0	0	0	0
Email appears to be from a friend, colleague, boss, or known authority.	0	0	0	0	0



What is your level of confidence in identifying an email as a phishing email because of the following?

	No confidence	Low confidence	Neither high nor low confidence	High confidence	Extremely high confidence
Requests to help, contribute, or donate to others.	0	0	0	0	0
Offers that appear too good to be true.	0	$\circ$	0	0	0
Suggestions that something special is just for you.	0	0	0	0	0
Offers granted only for a limited time.	0	$\circ$	0	0	0
Email appears to be work-related.	0	0	$\circ$	0	0
Email appears to be from a friend, colleague, boss, or known authority.	0	0	0	0	0



What is your level of confidence in identifying an email as a phishing email because of the following?

	No confidence	Low confidence	Neither high nor low confidence	High confidence	Extremely high confidence
Spelling errors.	0	0	$\circ$	0	$\circ$
Grammar errors.	0	0	0	0	$\circ$
Inconsistencies within the email's message, sender's information, and/or attachments.	0	0	0	0	0

	Extremely unlikely	Unlikely	Neither likely nor unlikely	Likely	Extremely likely
Spelling errors.	$\circ$	0	0	0	$\circ$
Grammar errors.	0	0	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
Inconsistencies within the email's message, sender's information, and/or attachments.	0	0	0	0	0



Other (please specify)

What is yo	our job ti	itle?		

Which job type listed below best fits your day-to-day responsibilities?

C	Administrative support: Provide general clerical and coordination support for the business aspects of the organization.
C	Mission-based: Central to the mission and goals of the organization.
C	<b>Facilities support in the field</b> : To provide protection, safety, maintenance, construction, repair or installation of facilities, grounds, infrastructure, equipment and/or vehicles.
C	<b>Facilities support in the office</b> : Plan, design, direct, or organize activities related to the protection, safety, maintenance, construction, repair or installation of facilities, grounds, infrastructure, equipment, and/or vehicles.
C	Legal: To ensure organizational legal and regulatory compliance and/or provide legal counsel.
C	<b>Management</b> : Provide directorial-level administrative decisions that affect the organization and envision, develop, and recommend higher-level managerial and administrative initiatives, programs, and policies.
C	Organizational support: Advise on, administer, or perform work that requires knowledge of both business and trade practices.

Please provide any last thoughts, comments, or observations about phishing emails that you would like to share with us.

• N • i • i • i • f

When a participant hovers over a response option, examples of the job type will be displayed:

- Administrative support-For example, timecard tracking, travel and expense report preparation, or meeting planning
- Mission-based-For example, an instructor, scientist, researcher, or salesperson
- Facilities support in the field-For example, security guard, janitorial staff or groundskeeper
- Facilities support in the office-For example, a facilities manager or security captain
- Legal-For example, general counsel
- Management-For example, Chief Executive Office, Director, or Department Chair
- Organizational support-For example, grants and contracts, employee relations finance