

Mobile Threats Are On The Rise

According to the website Lookout, 2022 had the highest rate of mobile phishing in history. Half of the mobile phone owners worldwide were exposed to a phishing attack every quarter. These alarming numbers are only increasing.

Mobile phishing is a highly effective tactic for stealing login credentials. The attacks and techniques are becoming much more sophisticated. The attacks become even more effective when combined with vishing (voice phishing)

And if that isn't enough, according to the website gbhackers.com, there has been a drastic increase in mobile banking malware with over 200,000 new installers discovered.

To protect yourself from these threats be #CyberSmart and S.T.O.P:

For email:

Slow down – The number one reason for falling for a phish, given by victims, is that they were rushing and not paying attention.

Think – Be active, not passive or casual in your review of email.

Analyze – Look for inconsistencies in the email address or in any links provided. Scammers can get slick and try and sneak www.pennfed.org instead of the valid www.penfed.org address. Look for actions that require immediate attention or response. If you are unsure of the validity of a request for action, reach out directly to the vendor via the telephone or their web site, never through a received email or text message.

Report – Report suspicious messages to the impacted vendor. If you get a message purporting to be from PenFed that seems suspicious, contact PenFed by calling 1-800-247-5626 or via email at abuse@penfed.org.

For mobile device safety, ensure that:

- Your mobile device is up to date with all the latest security patches
- Install and keep up to date anti-virus/malware software
- Use pass code to lock your device
- Be mindful of where you surf and shop. Only use web sites you trust
- Only install apps from your phone's vendor approved app store

Mobile devices are computers too. Those skills and tips you follow for your PC need to be applied to your phone as well. Remember, your cyber safety is your responsibility.