

Scams and Phishing



Text Scams

Spotting common digital scams

Common signs a text is a scam

Urgent language: *Your account is locked! You must act now! This is your final notice!*
Scammers want you to panic so you cannot think clearly.

Unknown or strange numbers: *74238, +91 77888 42055, USPSNotify-11223*
Be wary of odd-looking numbers or short codes. Scammers often use your area code.

Requests for personal information: *Reply with your SSN, password, bank info*
Legitimate companies will never ask for sensitive information over text. Never provide sensitive information over text.

Common scam examples

Missed delivery notification

We couldn't deliver your package. Click here to reschedule: [link]

Family Emergency

Grandma, I'm out with friends and lost my wallet! Can you send money? Don't tell mom!

Job Offers

We reviewed your resume online and want to offer you a remote position paying \$800/week. No interview needed. Click here to apply: [link]

Unpaid Highway Tolls

Illinois Tollway: Immediate action required. Your account is overdue. Click here to resolve: [link]

Bank Alert

Unusual activity on your account. Log in now: [link]