

SPAM EMAIL OR PHISHING ATTACK?

Use this guide to determine if unwanted emails in your inbox are phishing attacks or spam.



PHISHING ATTACK

Want your information: credit card number, password, bank account, etc.

Often targeted: Sent to a specific individual or group and contains relevant information, e.g., your name

Include malicious links to fake websites or malware downloads

May contain malicious attachments

Has a sense of urgency

Should be deleted and reported



SPAM EMAIL

Unwanted advertisements for products or services

Always broad:
Sent to millions of recipients

Include links to mostly legitimate websites offering products or services

Does not contain attachments

Does not require immediate action

Should be marked as spam and deleted

— **Some spam emails (2.3%) are also phishing attacks.** —

SHARED TRAITS



Unsolicited

You didn't ask for the email



Harmful

Both either attempt to steal your information or waste your time



Illegitimate

Use techniques like spoofing to make it to your inbox