

iMoneyMinute



brought to you by **iMONEYCOACH**
Money Is The Smallest Part of Your Finances.

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iMoneyCoach News

Our ebooks, including our New vs. Used Car guide and College Planning guide can be found on [Smashwords](#).

Online courses to help you be successful with your finances when and where you have time. Be sure to visit the [iMoneyCoach University](#) to learn more.

If you would like *more* money advice and tips, be sure to follow the [iMoneyCoach blog](#).

An "iMoneyMinute" is an idea that in less than one minute will give you a way to save time, save money, make money, or reduce your financial risk.



Tips for Keeping Your Email and Personal Information Safe

Unfortunately phishing scams are not only annoying, but they can cause headaches in dealing with computer viruses or identity theft. There are things you can do to be alert and protect yourself from the dangers of phishing scams.

Common components of phishing emails to help you **identify** them:

- Links in the email that may or may not say what they are for
- Incorrect spelling and grammar
- Threats such as "your account will be closed"
- It may have the name, logo, or even similar layout to a popular company
- Asks for your personal information or account information and passwords

Ways to **protect** yourself if you suspect an email to be phony:

- Open a separate email or call the person it is from and ask if they sent you an email. Often, if their account has been hacked, they can tell you right away that they did not send it.
- Hover over links *without clicking on them*. You will see a pop-up box either right around your mouse or in the lower left-hand corner of the screen that shows where the link really goes. If you do not know the site or if it looks suspicious at all, do NOT click the link.
- If you get an email from a company you know asking for information, open a new browser and go to that website

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directly to login to your account to see if there are any alerts. You can also call the company using the number listed on their site or in an account statement, but *do not* call any phone numbers in the email as they may be fake.

How to Stop Phishing Scams:

Ok, so you should know that you cannot completely stop all of these emails, but there are a few things you can do to be proactive in at least diminishing the amount of phishing scams going around.

- Raise the spam filters on your email account.
- Forward suspicious emails to your email provider or to the company they appear to have come from (i.e. Amazon shares [how to report phishing scams](#) to them)
- Keep your passwords in a safe location and do not give them out. Change passwords periodically, and do not use the same password on multiple accounts.
- Log out when you visit password protected sites on public or shared computers.
- Do not click links in suspicious emails. This tells the authors that your email address is valid and may end up causing emails to be sent out to your contacts.

How to protect your system if you already clicked a suspicious link in an email:

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html/?nodeId=10412241#protectsystem>

More resources on protecting yourself from phishing scams:

- Info from [Amazon](#)
- Info from [Microsoft](#)

At iMoneyCoach we are careful about the content we link to our emails and are always careful to test links and make sure they are safe before sending them on to you. We take your safety and security seriously.

We hope the iMoneyMinute is useful to you. If you have a different email address you would like us to use, or if you would prefer to no longer receive the iMoneyMinute emails, please email us at coach@imoneycoach.com.

We would also love your feedback on our emails! Please fill out [this short survey](#) to help us better serve you.