

Stay Secure This Season: Avoiding Online Holiday Scams



Stay secure this season by avoiding holiday scams. As online shopping becomes more prevalent, the risk of digital scams increases, with cybercriminals using advanced tactics to steal personal and financial data. Below, you will find a few practical tips and strategies to keep your online activities secure during the holidays.



Tips to Keep Your Online Activities Secure

1

Phishing Emails: Be cautious of emails from retailers or financial institutions asking for personal information, as they may be phishing attempts with generic greetings and suspicious links.



2

Fake Website URLs: Double-check website addresses to ensure legitimacy, watching for slight spelling changes and ensuring the use of HTTPS with a padlock symbol.



3

Unsecured Wi-Fi Networks: Avoid making transactions on public Wi-Fi, as these networks are unencrypted; use a VPN for safer browsing.



4

Counterfeit Goods: Deals that seem unusually good could be scams selling fake products—research sellers and read customer feedback thoroughly.



5

Suspicious Links on Social Media and Apps: Be cautious of links offering enticing deals from untrusted sources and verify apps before downloading.



By staying alert to these common threats and adopting safe online practices, you can significantly reduce the risk of falling victim to digital scams this holiday season.