

# Phishing Retro Scan

Identify the threats that have bypassed your current defenses to quickly remediate phishing exposure

## Greater visibility into phishing exposure

### Discover which phishing threats have already reached your end users

With phishing attacks on the rise and social engineering tactics becoming more convincing, it's no wonder why user exploitation poses the biggest security risk to organizations. While cloud email providers and secure email gateway (SEG) vendors offer various controls to limit unwanted emails, more targeted and deceptive phishing attacks can often bypass traditional security measures.

Cloudflare, a 2023 Forrester Wave™-recognized leader in Enterprise Email Security<sup>1</sup>, offers a self-service tool that retroactively scans Office 365 inboxes in minutes to identify malicious and unwanted emails that have been delivered over the past 14 days. This includes identifying active phishing attacks that have evaded existing security controls and are already in the inbox, posing an immediate threat to your organization.

### Running a retro scan

Steps	Benefits
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Log in to existing Cloudflare dash account (or create a free account if one doesn't exist)</li> <li>2. Access "Area 1" from left navigation bar</li> <li>3. Run scan by clicking "Generate Retro Scan Report" button</li> <li>4. Complete steps to authorize Microsoft 365 access and select email domain(s) to scan</li> <li>5. Review report once scan has completed (email confirmation will be sent once scan is done)</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Scan Office 365 inboxes in minutes</b> to immediately see malicious and unwanted emails delivered over the past 14 days</li> <li>• <b>View and download a customized report</b> that provides both an overview and detailed breakdown of emails flagged during the scan</li> <li>• <b>Connect with an email security expert</b> to better understand the types of threats detected and how to best remediate exposure</li> </ul>



### Run a free phishing retro scan to instantly see:

**Who** within your organization is most frequently targeted

**How** many malicious and unwanted emails are sitting in your inboxes

**What** specific threat types are evading your current defenses

**Which** attack groups and phishing tactics are targeting your users

**Where** malicious and unwanted emails are originating

## Example retro scan results

### See a detailed breakdown of malicious and unwanted emails sitting in your inbox

Running a retro scan provides a full phishing assessment in minutes, detailing the frequency and type of threats that have reached your inboxes over the past 14 days, including active phishing attacks that have already bypassed Microsoft's built-in protections and any deployed email security solutions.

Once the scan is complete, a report is generated to provide both an overview of threat types discovered, as well as contextual data for each email identified. Emails flagged during the scan include:

- **Malicious:** Phishing emails that contain harmful payloads, links, or other deceptive elements. These emails seek to exploit users trust in an attempt to gain unauthorized access or commit financial fraud.
- **Suspicious:** Potentially harmful emails that appear to have malicious intent. These emails often require time and resources to investigate.
- **Spoof:** Phishing emails that attempt to trick users into thinking a message came from a person or entity they know and trust.
- **Bulk:** Emails from sales and marketing campaigns. While harmless, bulk emails are time-consuming and distracting.
- **Spam:** Unwanted emails that are harmless, but clog up inboxes and disrupt user workflows.

**10,992**

#### Bulk emails

Emails from sales & marketing campaigns.

**245**

#### Spam emails

Unwanted emails you wish to no longer receive.

**16**

#### Phish emails

Emails that are suspected to have malicious intent.

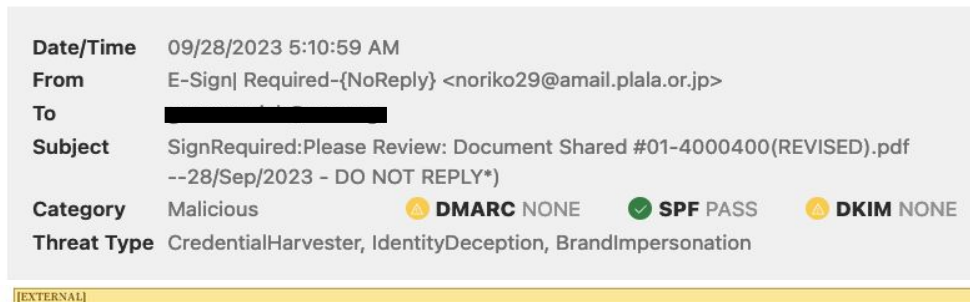


## Sample phishing attack detected

### QR codes are an increasingly popular phishing tactic for bypassing email security

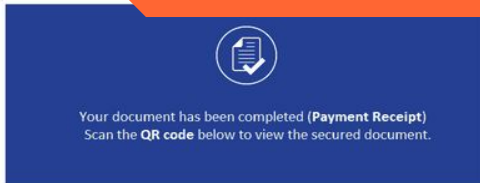
While there are many clever and evasive phishing tactics in use today, QR codes are being leveraged more frequently by attackers to evade email security controls and pivot the user to a less secure attack channel, which in this case happens to be a mobile device. The goal of the attack is to bait the user into scanning the QR code and open the underlying malicious link that leads to a spoofed login page in an effort to steal the user's credentials.

Cloudflare uses an array of sophisticated techniques to identify QR code attacks, including optical character recognition (OCR) and ML-powered contextual analysis. Together, these techniques deconstruct and cross-validate the language and various elements within the message to determine the authenticity of the sender. The sample phish below shows how attackers utilize brand impersonation and malicious links to deceive users.



DocuSign

DocuSign logo and email template used for brand impersonation



Malicious link hidden within QR code to direct users to a fake login page

Please complete with your electronic signature by following the QR above.  
Thank You!

Powered by DocuSign | Microsoft

## Why Cloudflare?



### One unified platform

**Secure access**  
by verifying and segmenting any user to any resource

**Threat defense**  
by covering all channels with network-powered AI/ML & threat intel

**Data protection**  
by increasing visibility and control of data in transit, at rest & in use

### One programmable network

**More effective**  
by simplifying connectivity and policy management

**More productive**  
by ensuring fast, reliable, and consistent user experiences everywhere

**More agile**  
by innovating rapidly to meet your evolving security requirements

Ready to see what's lurking in your inboxes?

Run a retro scan

1. Source: [The Forrester Wave™: Enterprise Email Security, Q2, 2023](#)

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