Check your email security, and protect your customers

Free online tool from the NCSC prevents cyber criminals using your email to conduct cyber attacks.

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Regardless of the size of your organisation – or the sector you work in – cyber attacks and data breaches pose a real threat to your business, your brand, and your customers.

According to a recent UK government report, 32% of small businesses experienced a breach or cyber attack in the last 12 months, and one of the most common techniques criminals use is to send fake emails that impersonate your organisation. These phishing emails, as they are known, can be used to commit online fraud, or to spread ransomware and other types of malware.

If your organisation is targeted, your business could be disrupted, your reputation damaged, and your customers could suffer real-world harm.

For all these reasons, we'd encourage organisations of all sizes to register with the NCSC's free Check your email security online tool, which can prevent criminals exploiting your email domain.

How does 'Check your email security' work?

The online tool runs a number of quick technical checks in seconds. You don't need to provide any personal information, or install any software. Simply enter your email domain, and the tool will instantly identify any vulnerabilties in your email setup that a criminal could exploit.

Specifically, the tool is designed to help with:

1. **Email anti-spoofing**, to prevent cyber criminals sending emails pretending to be you (a technique known as 'email spoofing').
2. **Email privacy**, to make it harder for cyber criminals to intercept and read your emails.

Since its launch in 2022 over 120,000 domains have been checked using the tool, which means we've helped thousands of businesses, organisations, schools and colleges to protect their email addresses from being used to conduct cyber crime.

To use the tool, simply visit the NCSC's Check your cyber security website, and enter your email domain. Or if you want to know more about the tool, watch the following video.

Unable to display video due to your cookie settings. Please change your cookie settings or watch the video on YouTube instead.

How else can the NCSC protect my organisation online?

Check your email security is the latest online tool that's now available from the NCSC's Check your cyber security website, which is designed to help non-technical users to find and fix some of the most important cyber security issues. The website also includes the following online checks to identify common vulnerabilities in your IT.

- Check your IP address & website: Check if cyber criminals could attack your systems to gain access to your data via the internet.

- Check your web browser: Check if your web browser is out of date (and therefore vulnerable to exploitation by criminals).

Using these tools will make life harder for online criminals, and protect other organisations (as well as your own) from becoming victims of cyber attacks. And if you receive any suspicious emails, either at home or work, you can report them to us at the NCSC by forwarding it to report@phishing.gov.uk.

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WRITTEN FOR

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