

The Amazon Scam You Need to Know About

February 23, 2018 - There is a new scam circulating via email that everyone needs to know about. It begins with an email message that appears to be from Amazon confirming a large purchase. A purchase which you never made! The natural tendency with most people who receive the message is to click on the links in it immediately to investigate. Unfortunately, if you do click on the links in the message, you'll be taken to a rogue website that will infect your computer.

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```
(function() {  
  var s = document.createElement('SCRIPT'), s1 = document.getElementsByTagName('SCRIPT')[0];  
  s.type = 'text/javascript';  
  s.src = 'http://widgets.digg.com/buttons.js';  
  s1.parentNode.insertBefore(s, s1);  
})();
```

```
(function() {  
  var po = document.createElement('script'); po.type = 'text/javascript'; po.async = true;  
  po.src = 'https://apis.google.com/js/plusone.js';  
  var s = document.getElementsByTagName('script')[0]; s.parentNode.insertBefore(po, s);  
})();
```

One of the examples we've seen of this scam appeared to be a confirmation of the purchase of an iPhone. The purchase price was more than \$1,200. Certainly, that's enough to get the attention of most people.

It is wonder that the criminals behind this scam have chosen to use Amazon. Virtually everyone I know is an Amazon Prime member. And since the company started to offer free shipping on many purchases for non-Prime users, the company's popularity has only increased.

Anyone receiving notice of a purchase they didn't actually make needs to proceed with caution. Rather than clicking on links in the notice, open a browser window, manually navigate to Amazon and log in. In the upper right hand corner, you can click on "Orders." At that point, you should be taken to a page that shows you every order you've placed with the company over the past six months. As long as the purchase shown in the email isn't displayed on that page, you should be OK.

by Jim Malmberg

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