

HOLIDAY SCAM GUIDE

'TIS THE SEASON
TO STAY ALERT





PRO TIPS TO AVOID GIFT CARD SCAMS

- **If bought in-store, check the back to ensure the PIN is not exposed.**
- **Get a receipt to verify the purchase if lost or stolen.**
- **Only purchase from reputable retailers.**
- **Note: Gift cards do not have an activation fee nor a fee to 'protect your money'. Never pay these 'fee's.**



PRO TIPS TO AVOID FAKE CHARITIES

- **Verify the URL and Charity name before donating.** Scammers create lookalike charities that sound similar to the legitimate cause.
- **Charities will never threaten, use hard sell tactics, or vague language.** They will always tell you how your donation will be spent, so ask questions!



PRO TIPS TO IDENTIFY LOOKALIKE STORES

- **The store is a retailer you've never heard of**
- **Basic company info is missing, such as About page, contact info, return details**
- **Something seems 'off' - whether poor grammar, bad image quality or fake-sounding reviews**
- **Large discounts - 50% Off or more - on all items**
- **URL is slightly off or misspelled from the official retail site**



PRO TIPS TO IDENTIFY FAKE ITEMS FOR SALE

- **Large discounts - 50% Off or more - on all items is truly too good to be true**
- **Something seems 'off' - whether poor grammar, bad image quality, or fake-sounding reviews**
- **Does the account advertising look like it is newly created or well established? Check follower count, posted content, engagement, and a completed bio**



PRO TIPS TO AVOID FAKE DISCOUNTS

- **If it's too good to be true, it probably is.**
- **Research the store on trusted sites to check the store for signs of fraud**
- **If a hot item - iPhone or TV - is significantly discounted AND the seller only accepts irreversible payment methods, it's a scam**
- **The retailer is one you're unfamiliar with**
- **Seller offers a sob story why they have to part with the item**



PRO TIPS TO AVOID DELIVERY SCAMS

- **Delivery companies will NEVER ask for your social security number, credit card, or other sensitive info to track a package**
- **Verify any issues with a delivery via the company's official website and never through a link sent via SMS or email**



PRO TIPS TO IDENTIFY FAKE GIFT EXCHANGES

- **You're offered multiple gifts in return for sending money or gifts to a stranger**
- **You're asked for personal information to join the 'program'**
- **You're invited to join the gift exchange from someone you don't know, or don't know well**

The background is a vibrant red color, decorated with numerous white snowflakes of various sizes scattered across the surface. The snowflakes are stylized, with some having six distinct points and others being smaller and more delicate. The overall effect is festive and wintry.

Wizer

Have a Wizer
Holiday!

Security Awareness Simply Explained

wizer-training.com