

Porn Scam Email

What to do if you Receive a
Porn Scam Email

How to recognise this scam:

The porn scam email operates on the basis that you have accessed adult pornography online at some time in the past (as many people have).

Building on this assumption, the email threatens to share video evidence of you watching that pornography unless a ransom is paid. To heighten fear some of the emails even suggest that you may be a paedophile.

What to do if you receive one

1. Don't panic and take a step back. Stop, pause and think

- These emails are designed to make you feel anxious and worried. Scammers attempt to create a sense of urgency and push you to act quickly.
- You should always be dubious of any form of communication that makes you feel stressed, anxious or worried. If you feel under pressure to act- it's usually a sign you should step back and think critically.
- Avoid clicking links on the email, it may contain a virus or other type of malicious software, which could be harmful for your devices or home network.
- Move it to the spam folder and avoid sharing it.
- You might be tempted to delete the email but remember to take a screenshot, if appropriate, in case you need it at a later date for evidence.

What to do if you receive one

2. Do your research

Use the internet to figure out if anyone else has received a similar email, you can check by pasting some of the text into Google to search.

You may also want to figure out how they got your information – check haveibeenpwned.com to find out if your email or password has been released during a data breach.

Remember! Don't reply to the email. This will confirm to scammers that they have a valid email address- which could make you a target for further scams.

3. Take action to protect yourself

If you have received one of these emails, you should consider contacting your local police. Remember the police will take your case seriously, they will be non-judgmental and deal with your case privately.

What to do if you receive one

4. Improve your digital security

If you receive a scam email, it's a huge warning sign that you should update all your passwords and secure accounts that may have been compromised.

It's also a hard-hitting reminder to change your passwords every 90 days and avoid using the same password across multiple sites.

5. Don't stay silent

The natural reaction of so many people is to panic and remain silent. If you or someone you know receives a porn scam email it can invoke fear, terror and panic. Keep in mind that it's ALWAYS illegal to blackmail someone online, and you have done nothing wrong.

These emails are striking for their use of strong and emotive language, make sure to check in with someone you trust and get some support if you need to talk.

[You can contact the Samaritans 24/7 to talk to someone.](#)

Contact Us

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