



Texting: This is not a SCAM, it's REAL

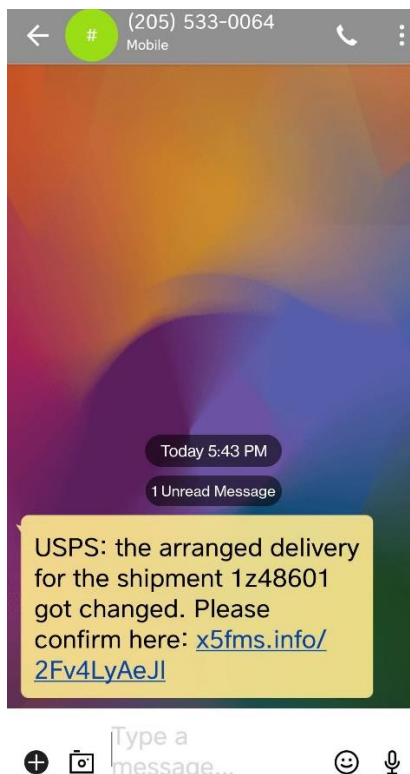
1. NEVER, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, CLICK/TAP ON ANY LINK IN AN **UNSOLICITED TEXT**. THERE ARE **NO EXCEPTIONS** TO THIS RULE. YOU MAY OPEN THE TEXT MESSAGE AND READ IT, BUT **NO TOUCHING!**

2. Don't panic. We have lots of things that ship to us from lots of companies. They use the standard shippers in our part of the US: United States Postal Service (USPS), United Parcel Service (UPS), Federal Express (FedEx), and maybe Amazon Delivery (If you're getting something from Amazon, of course).

3. I've been ordering from Amazon for the past decade. No big deal, I trust their security. I have gotten packages from all the different delivery services and it's never been an issue.

4. I was expecting clothing from them and this time they shipped the package through the postal service. I can see this in my own Amazon account, so I'm all set.

5. Saturday evening, my cell phone notifies me that I have a text message. Strange. I follow my own first rule (above) and open the message so I can see it in its entirety:

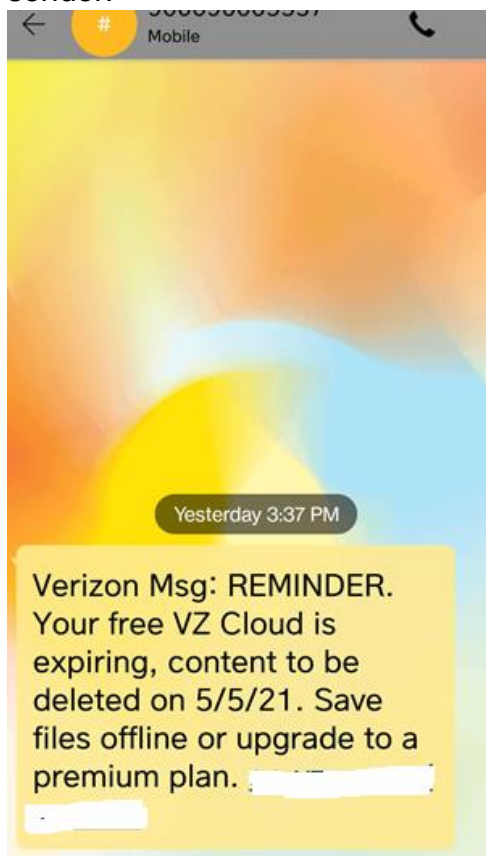


6. What. The. Heck?? **STOP AND BREATHE!**

7. DON'T TOUCH IT. (If you do touch it, and a link opens, you can just close the screen on the phone. The link opens to a FAKE WEB PAGE ON THE INTERNET. Therefore, don't touch the page, and go to your address bar, type in a safe page, like "Google.com" or something, and think no more about the fake web page. If you know how to erase your browser history on your phone, do that).
8. CLOSE YOUR TEXT APPLICATION. DON'T TOUCH THE TEXT WHILE IT'S OPEN. (Have I said that before? It bears repeating).

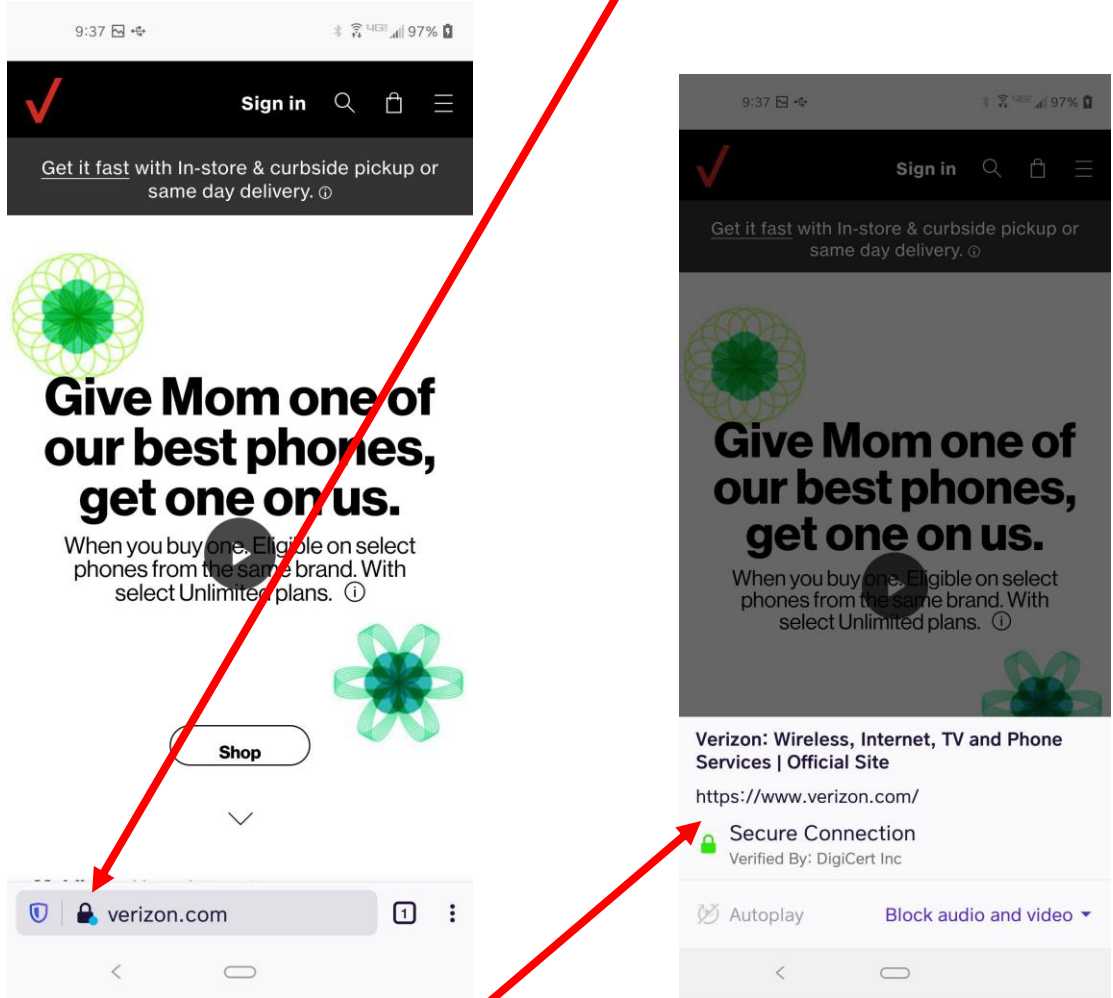
Text: Not a Scam, a Real Text

1. What if a text is EXPECTED? What if you have ASKED FOR A TEXT? That's different!
2. Open the text message, read it, respond (or don't respond) accordingly.
3. Here's a text I got from Verizon. Since they are my cell carrier, I get messages from them from time to time. It's normal, if "unsolicited." This is an "acceptable" unsolicited text, as I know the sender.



4. There is a link to tap (under the white color) but I simply haven't done anything with this as I don't feel I need to. If I tapped the link, it would go to the official Verizon website and I would be prompted to log into my account.
5. Remember! Even on mobile, websites have security!

6. Here's two screenshots of the secure, official Verizon site that the link in the text takes me:



7. If I tap that lock, this pops up (excellent).

Good luck!

Funding for computer training is provided by the Nioga Library System

