

Lookout Identifies Phishing Attacks Targeting Verizon Customers Before They Start

Sophisticated phishing attack mirrors customer support infrastructure

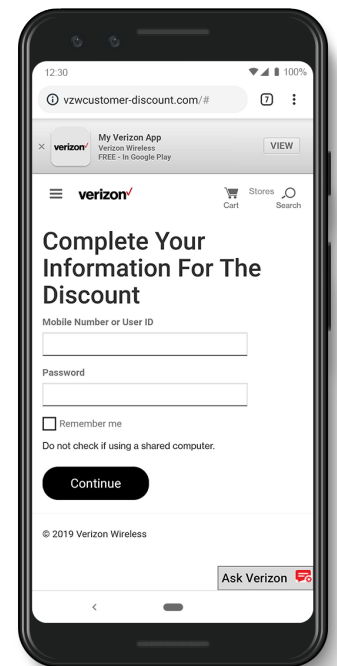
Overview

Lookout recently discovered a new phishing attack targeting Verizon customers. The attacker developed a mobile specific site designed to resemble a Verizon app using malicious links masquerading as Verizon Customer Support, demonstrating high sophistication and a strong understanding of Verizon infrastructure.

While some phishing sites may resemble poorly developed phishing domains on a desktop device, this site was designed to look like a legitimate Verizon app interface when viewed on a mobile device.

Impact

Unprotected, Verizon customers entering their credentials on this site risked having their accounts taken over, compromising their privacy and exposing themselves to fraud and identity theft. This also exposes Verizon to significant business risk including brand damage and potential liability.



Growing Risk from Mobile Phishing

Users are three times more likely to fall for a phishing link on a smartphone than a desktop.¹ Mobile is quickly emerging as an effective attack vector as many mobile devices lack adequate security tools typically deployed on desktop devices. As mobile usage continues to grow, these mobile attacks are expected to grow in prevalence and sophistication.

Early Detection by Lookout Phishing AI

Phishing sites are improving in their look and design, making it harder for humans to visually identify a malicious site. With its advanced Phishing & Content Protection technology, Lookout is able to identify early signals of a phishing attack and build protection for Lookout users, as well as provide early warning to Lookout partners before their customers are impacted. Lookout uses an artificial intelligence engine to detect early signals of phishing, protecting end users from such sites as they come up, and also alerting targeted organizations.

Lookout discovered the phishing attacks across all domains and notified Verizon before the malicious sites were deployed.

1. Findings by Lookout between October 2017 and October 2018.