4 Tips to Protect Yourself from Summer Cyber Scams

Summer is here, which means cybercriminals are ramping up their efforts to trick you into sharing your personal information. Here are four ways to protect yourself:

1. **Emails that sound “too good to be true”** (such as an offer for an all-expense-paid trip) probably are! Don’t take the bait.

2. **Look out for domains that have misspellings or additional letters.** A common tactic is to replace an “m” in a domain name with the two letters “rn” which look very similar.

3. **If the URL doesn’t start with “https” and you’re entering personal information, it’s probably not a legitimate website.** Always look for the padlock and the “https” before entering your information.

4. **Don’t use public USB ports to charge your device or connect to public Wi-Fi** – they’re easy ways for cybercriminals to steal your information. Instead, wait until you have secure internet access, and always plug your charger directly into a wall outlet.

For additional information on summer cyber scams and identity theft scams, please visit the [IRS’ Identity Theft portal](https://www.irs.gov/identity-theft).