# 5 Of The Most Common Cyber Attacks (And How To Prevent Them From Happening)

In this presentation, we'll be taking a look at the five most common cyber attacks and how you can prevent them from happening. So without further ado, let's dive right in and give you a list of the following.

## Phishing Attacks

First, we take a look at phishing attacks. This is where hackers send deceptive emails, but they design them to look legitimate. To the untrained eye, these emails might seem like they come from a legitimate company. The goal for the hacker is to intercept any sensitive information you may have, such as your login credentials (username or password), financial information (credit cards, debit cards, bank account information), and so on.

To prevent a phishing attack, verify the sender's email address and look for any red flags. This includes comparing the legitimate domain to the fake one, checking for grammatical or spelling errors in emails, and avoiding links and attachments that seem unsolicited or surprising. Use email filters to your advantage to block these phishing attempts. If others are using the computer, whether at home or in a business setting, ensure they know how to recognize phishing attacks, especially in email form.

## Malware Attacks

Next, we have malware attacks, which are short for malicious software. Malware can come in various forms such as viruses, worms, and ransomware. The purpose of malware is to infiltrate your system using infected files, websites, or even external devices. As a result, your data network can be harmed. To prevent these attacks, it is highly recommended that you install reputable antivirus software and keep it up to date.

Additionally, avoid downloading files from untrusted sources. Ensure your operating system and software are up to date, as they will include security patches to fix vulnerabilities. Last but certainly not least, please back up your data to an external location such as an external hard drive or a cloud-based storage service.

## Man-in-the-Middle Attacks

Let's focus now on man-in-the-middle attacks or MITM for short. This is where a cybercriminal can intercept communications between two parties by eavesdropping on the communication or even manipulating the data exchanged between two users. One of the hotbeds for man-in-the-middle attacks is public Wi-Fi because it's not as secure compared to private networks.

So, it's important to use secure encrypted connections like HTTPS, or if you're in a public setting, make sure you're using a VPN. Both are paramount when it comes to online communications. Also, avoid sensitive transactions on public Wi-Fi networks. If you want to add extra layers of security, enable two-factor authentication for the accounts you use regularly. Finally, be sure to regularly update and secure your network devices to eliminate vulnerabilities.

## Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) Attacks

DDoS attacks involve overwhelming a network or website with an excessive amount of traffic, causing it to slow down or become inaccessible. Cybercriminals achieve this using a botnet, which renders a website useless. To prevent these attacks, you should use what is known as a content delivery network (CDN) to distribute traffic and block potential attacks. Monitor traffic patterns for any unusual spikes and take action as soon as possible if you notice any.

## SQL Injection Attacks

Finally, let's take a look at SQL injection attacks. This is when a cybercriminal attacks databases using malicious SQL code in fields or queries. From there, a hacker can manipulate or steal data. Websites and applications that use SQL databases are vulnerable to this type of attack. To prevent these attacks, regularly update your database management system to ensure security patches are in place. Also, consider using web application firewalls to protect against SQL injection attacks.

## Conclusion

These are the five most common cyber attacks, and we hope you can take note of them to prevent yourself from becoming a victim. Lastly, stay safe and keep a sharp eye out for any possible cyber attacks. All it takes is one click of a link or a download of a file for things to go from bad to worse quickly. With that said, thank you for checking out this presentation. Have a good one.