MODULE 12
Online scams

Skills to Connect

Just like in "real" life, there are many scammers on the internet, always more creative to trick us. Fake links, fake sites, fake applications, ... But don't panic! Surfing safely is possible. Find out how with this module.

1 The different types of scams and how to spot them

- Discover the most commonly used scams, such as:
- Phishing
    - Spoofing or "identity theft"
    - Online shopping fraud
    - Triangular fraud
- What are the signs to look out for?
- Find out the signs to look out for so you don't fall into the trap!

Discover the explanatory sheet 1

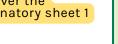## 2 Protect yourself against scams

- Some terms to clarify:
    - What is cybersecurity?
    - Definition of Hacker?
- How to protect yourself against scams?
    - Protect your devices
    - Protect your accounts
    - Protect your data

Discover the explanatory sheet 2

3 Reacting to scams

- How to react if...
    - I am a victim of phishing and I clicked on a fraudulent link
    - I am a victim of purchase fraud
    - I made a purchase on a fraudulent site
- What to do if you spot a scam?
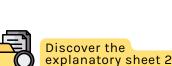   - Who to turn to to report an online scam? Discover the reporting and prevention platforms

Discover the explanatory sheet 3

Practice!

To support you in your learning and validate your knowledge, you can practice by completing the quizzes and fun exercises below:

- **Yanis gets trapped**
  - Discover the life of Yanis, who is repeatedly scammed. Help him not to fall into the scammers' trap!
  - Fun exercise mixing videos, screenshots and quizzes to help you detect a scam!
  - You must create a free account on the 123 Digit platform

  Do the exercise here

- **Track the scam**
  - Fun exercise using screenshots to spot phishing attempts by SMS!
  - You must create a free account on the 123 Digit platform

  Do the exercise here

Online Scams and Your Job

👉 People who are not very comfortable with digital tools are easy prey for hackers, who take advantage of their lack of experience with these technologies to scam them.
Here are some situations in your daily life where this module could be useful to you:

☐ **You have been given a mobile phone as part of your job**
Companies are often targeted by phishing attempts, whether by email or SMS. It is therefore very important not to fall into the trap, so as not to jeopardize the security of your company or association. This is even more important if you work in the healthcare sector, which holds sensitive information on its patients and beneficiaries. In the first chapter of this module, you will learn how not to fall into the trap and spot the signs of phishing!

☐ **You are helping an elderly or vulnerable person**
Elderly people are the favorite prey of hackers because they are not always educated about the potential dangers of the Internet. Are you helping an elderly person who seems vulnerable to scammers? Do you suspect that they have been scammed? The last chapter explains how to react!

☐ **You make purchases on the internet**
More and more of us are making purchases online. Whether for convenience or to find a good deal, it is important to recognize a fraudulent site to not be fooled. Chapter 1 explains how to recognize a reliable site in order to make purchases safely.
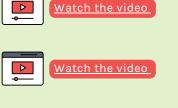
☐ **You have children**
The new generations born with digital, also called "digital natives" are often comfortable with digital tools. However, no one is safe from scams, and even the youngest get scammed! With this module, you learn how to protect your family's digital devices and have access to prevention to make your children aware of online scams.

To go further...

Want to know more about online scams?
Here is a compilation of resources to help you delve deeper into this module!

- France TV series on the pitfalls of digital technology

   [Watch the video](#)

- France TV report: "phishing, how scammers set up phishing"

   [Watch the video](#)

- BRUT report: smartphone hacking To test, a journalist asked a hacker to hack her smartphone.

   [Watch the video](#)

- France TV report: "Online ads, the worst methods of scammers"

   [Watch the video](#)

- French Government Family Cyber Guide: 10 essential good practices to protect the family's digital uses

   [Download the guide](#)