

Free Email Could Cost You Everything!



How many of you have a "free" email address provided by your internet provider? Usually this means that you have an email address that ends in yahoo.com, sbcglobal.net, cox.net, comcast.net, pldi.net, etc...

That "Free" email account you are using could cost you everything you have.

Free email accounts are not secure!

- 1. When you use a free email, you are not the customer. The Email Provider makes money from advertisers and data miners who use your information to make more money off of you.
- 2. Advertisements in free email are a common source of viruses, malware and scams. This means that by just checking your email you are increasing your chances of getting a virus or being a victim of a scam.
- 3. Free email accounts do not provide good quality spam filtering. This means that you get a lot of junk mail. Often this junk mail contains viruses, it can also be a source of scams and attempts to gain access to your information by phishing.
- 4. Many of these free email providers have been hacked, sometimes repeatedly.

Yahoo announced that they had a breech which compromised information for over 500 million people. This information included names, email addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, security questions and answers, and in some cases passwords.

This is enough information to make it easy for someone to steal your identity, take over your other online accounts, reset your passwords and change other information about you with not just Yahoo, but other companies as well.

The implications for this breech and many others like it are very scary in today's online world, especially since most websites use your email as your User ID. Because the bad guys have access to your email, they can reset your passwords with your other accounts and receive the password reset email.

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All of this is further complicated by the fact that most people use the same password on many of their accounts. The combination of these 2 things makes it very easy for the bad guys to get access to most, if not all of your information very quickly.

They now have enough access to obtain credit, access your bank and retirement accounts, and generally make your life miserable.

We all really need to take our information and online account use more seriously.

The moral of this story is nothing in life is really free. There is always a cost. Don't use free email accounts, because free email could cost you everything.

If you have questions or would like to know more about business quality email, give us a call. We will be glad to help you.



Ultimate IT Guys specializes in helping Housing Authorities with their computers. We are the leading provider of full service support for the housing industry. We offer remote support, on-site support, off-site backup, anti-virus, preventative maintenance, website building and website hosting.

We are much more than a bunch of IT geeks that fix problems. We don't just sit around and wait for something to break. We are continually monitoring your environment and fixing many issues before they become problems. We are just a phone call away when you do have a question or need help. We meet with you regularly to make sure we understand your business needs and direction. This allows us to provide you with the best solutions and support. Our goal is to be a vital member of your team and make sure that your IT dollars are spent wisely. We want your technology experience to be stress free, secure, and productive.

We work with all major housing software vendors and are experienced at dealing with HUD and housing specific issues.

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