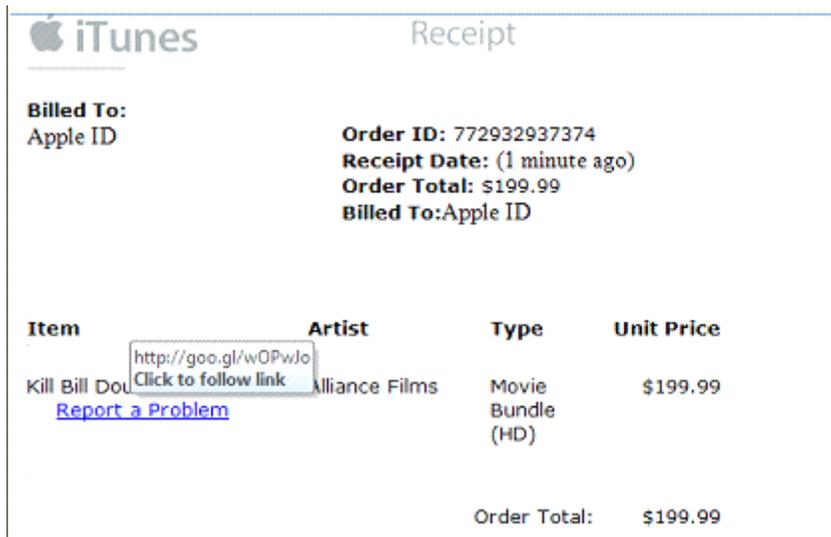




COT Security Alert – Apple iTunes Phishing Email

The COT Office of Chief Information Security Officer has become aware of a recent phishing campaign which appears to be a receipt from Apple iTunes, but is actually from an unknown sender with the email address orders@tunes.co.uk. The email is crafted with the Apple iTunes logo and uses the social engineering tactic of making the recipient fear that unwanted charges have been applied to their account, which the recipient is expected to dispute by clicking the fake “Report a Problem” link in the email. Users who have subscribed to Apple iTunes should be aware that the links in this phishing email go to an unknown and potentially malicious third party and not Apple iTunes. Hovering over the links in the email will show the actual web address. In this case it is a shortened URL which does not resolve to Apple iTunes. Below is a portion of the reported phishing email showing the actual link in the email.



The email sender address and link addresses in phishing attempts may change over time to avoid discovery by email filters. Users are advised never to respond to unexpected emails from unknown senders in any way. If a user purchases from Apple iTunes and wants to make sure they do not have unexpected charges to their account, they should go to the official Apple iTunes website by typing the address in their browser or by typing Apple iTunes in their search engine.

NOTICE: COT is providing this information so that you are aware of the latest security threats, vulnerabilities, software patches, etc. You should consult with your network administrator or other technical resources to ensure that the appropriate actions for these alerts are followed. If you are a network administrator and need additional information, please call the Help Desk at 502.564.7576.

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