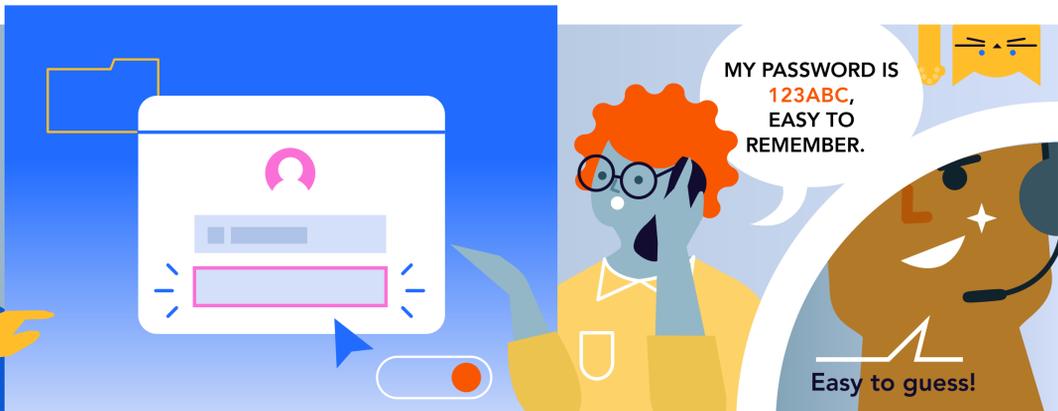
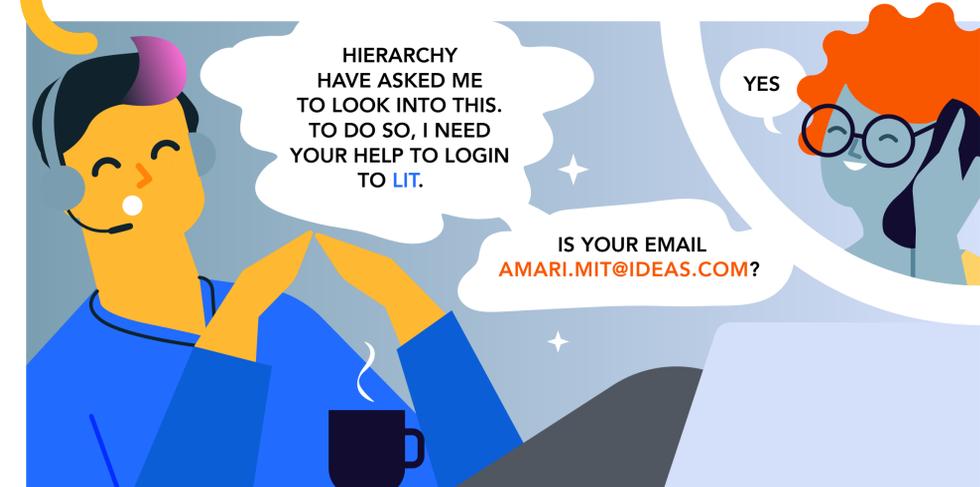
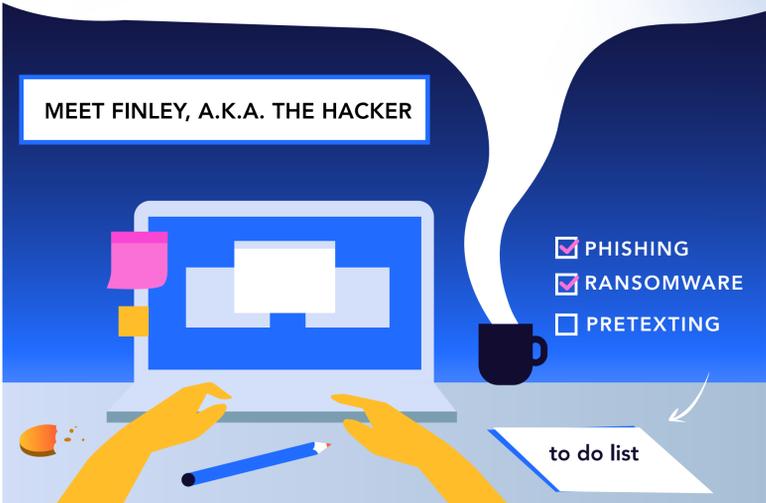


# Fibbing FINLEY

## A GUIDE TO PRETEXTING

2023 EUROPEAN CYBER SECURITY MONTH



### BE SMARTER THAN A HACKER

FINLEY HAS JUST USED A SOCIAL ENGINEERING TECHNIQUE CALLED **PRETEXTING**. THIS CONSISTS OF CREATING A FAKE, YET PLAUSIBLE, SCENARIO TO GAIN A VICTIM'S TRUST TO TRICK THEM INTO SHARING SENSITIVE INFORMATION, DOWNLOADING MALWARE, SENDING MONEY TO CRIMINALS, OR OTHERWISE HARMING THE VICTIM OR THE ORGANISATION THEY WORK FOR. HERE ARE SOME TIPS TO PREVENT THIS.

- NO MATTER HOW URGENT OR NOT, CHECK THE **IDENTITY** OF THE PERSON MAKING A REQUEST, WHETHER ON THE PHONE, VIA EMAIL OR PRIVATE MESSAGE.
- **NEVER GIVE PERSONAL CREDENTIALS** TO ANYONE, EVEN TO YOUR IT SUPPORT.
- **UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW** YOUR ORGANISATION'S SECURITY AND DATA PROTECTION POLICIES.
- IF IN DOUBT, CHECK WITH YOUR **DATA PROTECTION OFFICER (DPO) AND CYBERSECURITY OFFICER**.



edps.europa.eu

