



Call Forwarding Scams and How to Stay Safe

In an ever-evolving digital landscape, where convenience often intertwines with vulnerability, scammers are constantly devising new schemes to exploit unsuspecting individuals. Among these tactics lies a particularly insidious method: the misuse of call forwarding features offered by your telephone service provider. We've recently been made aware of a rise in call forwarding scams using the *72 feature to intercept security codes and other important communication. Here's what you need to know.

How Call Forwarding Scams Work:

Scammers employ various social engineering tactics to convince unsuspecting individuals to activate call forwarding on their phones. In this particular instance, the victim is instructed to dial *72 plus another number that is provided by the scammer. Once activated, all incoming calls are redirected to the provided phone number. This allows the bad guys to intercept security codes, verification calls, and other sensitive information intended for their victim.

The implications of falling victim to such scams can be severe. Intercepting security codes, for example, can grant scammers access to online accounts, financial information, and even personal identity details. The consequences of such breaches can be both financially and emotionally devastating.

How to Stay Safe:

Be Vigilant: Exercise caution when receiving unexpected requests to activate call forwarding or any other phone feature. Verify the authenticity of any requests through official channels before taking any action.

Guard Personal Information: Refrain from sharing sensitive information, such as security codes or account details, over the phone unless you initiated the call and are confident in the recipient's identity.

Enable Multi-Factor Authentication: Whenever possible, enable multi-factor authentication for your accounts. This adds an extra layer of security by requiring a secondary verification method, such as a code sent to your email or authenticator app.

Regularly Review Account Activity: Routinely monitor your financial and other online accounts for suspicious activity. Report any unauthorized transactions or unusual behavior to the respective service providers immediately.

Educate Yourself and Others: Stay educated on popular scams and how they work. Spread awareness about the dangers of call forwarding scams and share these safety tips with your friends, family, and colleagues to help them stay vigilant.