



Chip's Weekly Cheat Sheet: Feb-23 ●

Topic: Spotting "Pop-Up" Lies

1. The Fake Virus Warning

- If a window pops up saying "Windows has detected 42 viruses," don't panic. Real antivirus software doesn't usually scream at you through a web browser.
- **Chip's Tip: Real companies like Microsoft or Apple will NEVER ask you to call a phone number in a pop-up window.**

2. The High-Pressure Timer

- Scammers love using "ticking clocks" to make you act without thinking. If it says "Your data will be deleted in 5 minutes," it is a scam.
- **Chip's Tip: Take a breath. Scammers rely on fear; legitimate tech support relies on process.**

3. The "Force Close" Trick

- Some scam windows lock your mouse or won't let you click the "X." They want you to feel trapped so you'll call their fake number.
- **Chip's Tip: Press Alt + F4 on your keyboard (or Command+Option+Esc on a Mac) to force the browser to shut down safely.**