

Understanding Link Protection

<https://campus.barracuda.com/doc/96023012/>

Link Protection is available for both paid and trial subscriptions.

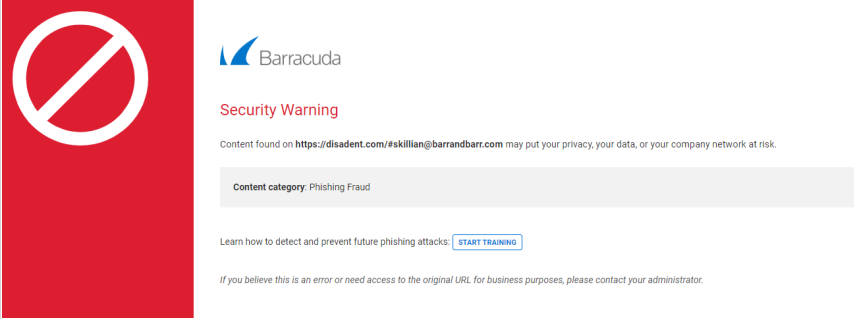
Note that Email Gateway Defense maintains a list of exempted domains for Link Protection.

See [Anti-Fraud and Anti-Phishing Protection](#) for more information on link protection and typosquatting.

You can configure Email Gateway Defense to perform real-time analysis of URLs and domains so that the user is safely redirected to a valid domain or to a Barracuda Networks domain warning of the fraud. Rewritten URLs do not expire and function indefinitely.

Table 1. Frequently Asked Questions

| Question | Description |
|---|--|
| When Link Protection is enabled, are there URLs that are not rewritten? | The following are exempt from Link Protection: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sender email addresses added under Inbound Settings > Sender Policies • URLs/domains under Intent Domain Policies set as Ignore • URLs/domains that are trusted by Barracuda Networks When Link Protection is enabled, URLs are not rewritten if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The URL is exempt • The URL is contained in an encrypted message • The URL is within an attachment |
| How do you confirm whether a URL has been rewritten? | To confirm whether a URL has been rewritten, hover over the URL to view the Link Protection rewrite. For example: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hover over the URL http://www.codestore.net/ 2. The link displays as: https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http://www.codestore.net&c=E,1,5bEVim247z1fGhtUhmYwbNu1H8iZr4NrgaCfUxKZdTyuUxW48gwPUfsoLDy-FCjYA5-2MCgtJlXy5N3PAFAD47XFHidB4K4cNJC7Z-FhFR1P96vPVq&typo=1 indicating the URL has been rewritten. |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>What happens when a user clicks a rewritten URL?</p> | <p>If a user clicks a rewritten URL, the following is true:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the URL is considered <i>bad</i>, the user is redirected to the Barracuda Link Protection Service Access Denied warning page which displays details about the blocked URL including the link:  <p>The screenshot shows a red banner with a white circle and a diagonal slash. To the right, the Barracuda logo is visible. Below the logo, the text reads 'Security Warning' in red. Underneath, it says 'Content found on https://disadent.com/#skillian@barrandbarr.com may put your privacy, your data, or your company network at risk.' A grey box contains the text 'Content category: Phishing Fraud'. Below that, there is a link 'Learn how to detect and prevent future phishing attacks: START TRAINING'. At the bottom, it says 'If you believe this is an error or need access to the original URL for business purposes, please contact your administrator.'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the URL is considered <i>good</i>, the user is redirected to the website. • There is no noticeable delay when a user clicks on a rewritten URL; rewritten URLs are verified in real-time to ensure the latest status determines it to be safe. • Each time a URL is clicked its status is verified before the redirect is allowed. • If the redirection service is unavailable, that is, Barracuda Networks cannot verify the URL's reputation, the user is redirected to the original link. |
| <p>What if a domain name is misspelled?</p> | <p>When Link Protection is enabled and common typos are found in the URL domain name, the URL is rewritten to the correct domain name so that the user visits the intended website.</p> |

Figures

1. image2021-1-25 14:8:12.png

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