Spot A Fake Renewal Notice

I heard from a reader who received a renewal notice that had her puzzled. It said that it was time to renew her security software, but shes only just activated her subscription to lolo System Mechanics PC Total Care. That subscription is good for an entire year. Lets take a look at the notice.

75% discount for our valued customers

Just a friendly reminder that your subscription is set to expire on 15th of August.

You're eligible for a special 75% discount for being a valued customer. Read more

Remove hidden Viruses and Spyware from your PC
Get help upgrading to Windows 10
Diagnose conflicts and errors that could be slowing down your computer
Optimize internet connections

Renew and claim your discount today

It does look similar to an actual renewal notice. And look! Theres a 75% discount if you renew now. But lets take a closer look. Notice anything unusual? Nowhere does it say the name of the software that you are renewing. Have you ever known a company that didn't want to mention the name of its product? And no company logo? Thats very strange. Also, check out that date. Theres no year. Real renewal notices tend to count down. They say something like, you have 14 days left on your subscription. Also, this email arrived in September, so an August expiration date would be odd.

And just who is it from? Not lolo, the company that makes System Mechanic. Its not even from System Mechanic. If you think your software might actually be up for renewal, you'll usually find that option in your program itself. Or you can just head over to the website for your security to check the status of your account.

Original Message:
From: Computer Mechanic <pc_mechanic@repair.listserve.xyz>
To: valeriamail <____________________>
Sent: Tue, Sep 6, 2016 5:34 pm
Subject: Subscription Renewal Notification

Subscription Renewal Notification

75% discount for our valued customers

And guess what else they don't tell you? No price. So you might hit renew and put in your credit card information thinking you're renewing your $20 or $100 per year security subscription and end up paying several hundred dollars. Maybe they'll offer you security software. Or may they're just trying to get into your computer.

Congrats to our reader for being too smart to fall for it. Far too many people would just click it and find themselves with a big bill.

~ Cynthia