

AVOIDING SCAMS

DO'S ✓

- Hang up on robocalls and ignore messages from unknown people.
- Be skeptical about “too good to be true” offers.
- Talk to someone you trust to verify the information,
- Secure personal information and avoid sharing it.
- Report scams!

DON'TS ✗

- Don't send money to someone you don't know.
- Don't use unusual payment methods.
- Don't act in a haste
- Don't share personal information to unknown sources.
- Don't keep it to yourself.

ANYONE CAN FALL VICTIM TO A SCAM.

Many people fall victim to scams every day, often causing feelings of shame and embarrassment. Don't let these feelings deter you from seeking help and reporting.



YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

RESOURCES

To learn more about ways to prevent, identify, and report scams, visit:

Federal Trade Commission

<https://consumer.ftc.gov/scams>

Minnesota Attorney General

<https://www.ag.state.mn.us/consumer/scams/>

Social Security Administration

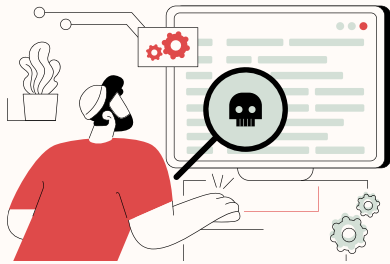
<https://www.ssa.gov/scam/>

SCAM PREVENTION



If you think you may have fallen victim to a scam, call your local law enforcement agency.

COMMON SCAMS



Imposter Scams

Someone pretends to be a trusted person or organization—like a government agency, a tech support representative, or even a friend or family member.

Lottery / Prize Scams

You're told you've won a lottery, sweepstakes, or prize you never entered. Scammers demand payment for "fees" or personal details to claim the prize.

Work Scams

Scammers pose as an employer to trick job seekers into sharing personal information. Fraudulent job offers promise high salaries or work-from-home opportunities but require upfront payments or fees.

Charity Scams

Scammers can pose as charitable organizations to exploit your generosity.

Online Shopping Scams

Fake websites advertise goods at low prices but fail to deliver the product, send counterfeit items, or gain access to personal information.

Romance Scams

Scammers create fake profiles on social media to build emotional connections & gain trust. Once a relationship is made, they request money, gifts, or personal details,

Investment Scams

Scammers make fake investment opportunities, promising high returns with little to no risk. These often target savings or retirement funds.

Government Assistance Scams

Scammers may impersonate government agencies, claiming your benefits like SNAP, MFIP, Social Security, or MA are at risk unless you pay a fee or provide personal info.

WARNING SIGNS

Too good to be true

Promises of guaranteed money, prizes, or high returns with no risk.

Urgency & Pressure

Scammers create a sense of urgency, fear, or excitement to pressure you into acting quickly,

Secrecy

Insist that you keep the offer or request confidential to prevent you from verifying the situation.

Unsolicited Contact

Unexpected calls, emails, or messages from unknown sources.

Personal Information

Asking for sensitive details like Social Security numbers, passwords, or bank info.

Unusual Payment Methods

Demands for payment via gift cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency.

