

WHAT IS AN ONLINE SCAM?

An online scam is a deceptive scheme on the internet that aims to steal our information and/or our money.



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Avoiding Online Scams



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HOW DO ONLINE SCAMS WORK?

Scammers use **three** main psychological tactics to deceive us...

...Through various scam types.

Create a sense of urgency.

Scammers pressure us to act fast by so that we do not have time to think and rationalise.

- PHISHING SCAMS
- TECH SUPPORT SCAMS
- PRIZE SCAMS

Draw on your emotions.

Scammers can use anger, excitement, and sadness to prompt us to take action.

- ROMANCE SCAMS
- CHARITY SCAMS
- SEXTORTION SCAMS

Appear to be trustworthy.

Scammers appear to be legitimate by using real logos or posing as people you know.

- JOB OFFER SCAMS
- FAKE WEBSITE SCAMS
- BANK SCAMS

STEPS TO HELP YOU AVOID BEING SCAMMED

01. Pause + Reflect

If it seems too good to be true, it is. If it evokes strong emotion out of you, and asks you take an action, it is likely a scam.

02. Verify

If you receive a strange message from a bank, college, or friend, contact them to confirm it is true.

03. Protect Your Data

Strong passwords are a good line of defence against cyber attacks but using multi-factor authentication provides a stronger barrier.

04. Ask for Help

If you are unsure about the validity of something you are seeing online, ask an adult to help you verify.