

Key Points

Warning Signs

- You feel rushed, pressured, or intimidated.
- You are asked to provide personal, financial, or account information.
- You are asked to keep the conversation secret.
- An offer seems too good to be true (it probably is).
- They tell you to pay in a specific way, such as with gift cards or cryptocurrency.

If you suspect a scam...

- Ask someone you trust for a second opinion.
- Confirm requests using official contact information.
- Contact the FTC by calling their hotline at **877-382-4357**.

If something feels wrong, trust your instincts! It is *always* better to be safe than sorry.

Resources

Reporting scams can help prevent future scams. Report scams to the FTC at **ReportFraud.ftc.gov**

Worried your identity was stolen? Learn what to do at **IdentityTheft.gov**

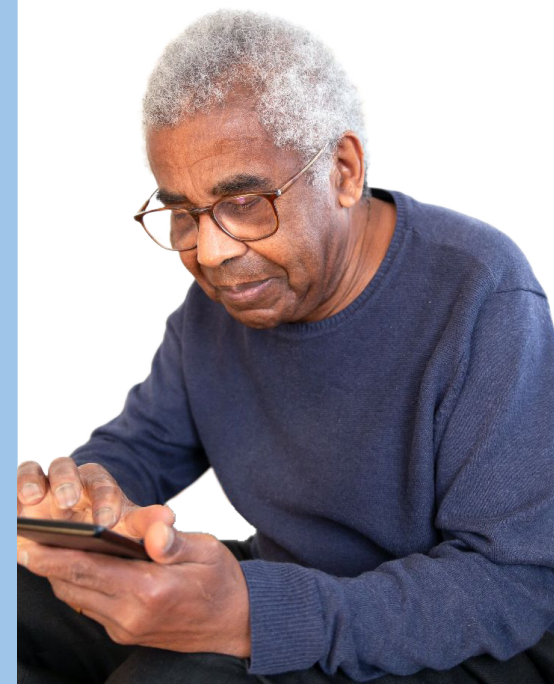
National Elder Fraud Hotline
Call **(833) 372-8311**
Mon - Fri from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information about scams and how to prevent them, visit **ScamEducation.org**

Being scammed is not your fault. Scams are a multi-billion dollar industry because scammers use dishonest and manipulative tactics. If you think you've been scammed, ***reach out for help.***

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Identifying Phone Scams



Identifying Scams



Check the Caller

Do you know this person?
Do they sound like they normally do?

Check for Oddities

Does it look, sound, or feel strange? For example, pressure to act quickly.



Check the Objective

Are they asking for something suspicious, like money, passwords, or personal information?



Scammers can easily fake caller ID and phone numbers.

Scammers can fake phone numbers to look local or familiar. If you know the caller, hang up and call them back using a saved number. If they claim to be an organization, hang up and look up the official number yourself.

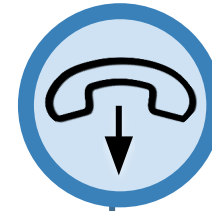
Tips & Tricks

- Hang up if you feel pressured.
- Never share a one-time code or password sent to you.
- Be very careful about sharing personal, financial, or account information over the phone.
- Never download anything someone asks you to over the phone.



- Never trust caller ID alone — phone numbers can be faked.
- Step away for a moment and think it over — especially if you feel rushed or pressured.
- When in doubt, talk to a trusted person about your concerns.

Ending Scams

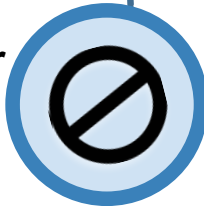


Step 1 - Hang Up

Hanging up can stop the scam before it goes further.

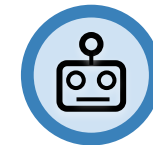
Step 2 - Block the Caller

Blocking the caller may prevent future calls.



They May Continue Calling

Scammers often use multiple phone numbers and may call you again. Stay alert and be cautious.



Robocall Blockers

Robocall blocker apps can help reduce scam calls on smartphones. Some may require a subscription. Research apps carefully before downloading them to your device.