

Which Magazine top tips to avoid being scammed

Scammers are becoming more skilled at devising schemes designed to con you. But there are things you can do to protect yourself:

Don't pay any attention to investment opportunities or offers that sound too good to be true. Do your own research before you part with any cash.

Check the address of a website or read online reviews before entering any personal or financial details. Look up the website information on a domain checker such as who.is – if it's a newly created site then it's a red flag.

Ignore texts, emails and calls from unknown contacts and invitations to WhatsApp groups that you've never heard of.

Never click links in unsolicited messages.

Ignore adverts and posts on social media that aren't from online accounts. You can verify company social media accounts by checking the links on a company's official website.

Look out for spelling and grammar mistakes as well as missing About us, Contact us and Terms and conditions pages.

Stick to official ticket sellers and resale platforms for events or concerts.

Preview the website that a QR code leads to before actually visiting it.

Sign up for free Which? Scam Alert emails to get the latest scams news and advice.

If you've lost money to a scammer, call your bank immediately using the number on the back of your card and report the scam to Action Fraud.