



You Can!

Protect Yourself from Being Scammed



With an increase in fraudulent phone calls, emails, social media posts and texts, many Americans fear being victimized by cybercrimes. Here are some of 2022's hottest fraud pitches and how to avoid them.

Rental Assistance Cons

As eviction bans in cities and states expire, scammers are impersonating government or nonprofit employees and requesting personal information and money up front for applications.

Stay Safe - Apply only to legitimate rental assistance programs run by government or non-profit groups. Find programs at www.cfpb.gov or call 855-411-2372.

Tax Imposters

Tax collection impersonators try to get personal information or ask for money to settle a tax debt. They may offer tax relief or threaten to revoke your driver's license or passport.

Stay Safe - Tax collector agencies do business by mail and won't ask for passwords, bank account or credit card information. They won't make threats or ask you to pay with gift cards or peer-to-peer (P2P) payment apps.

Fake Amazon Employees

One third of business-imposter fraud complaints involve scammers claiming they're from Amazon.

Stay Safe - Ignore calls, text messages, emails and social media messages about suspicious account activity, raffles or unauthorized purchases. To check your account, contact Amazon customer support at 888-280-4331.

"Favor for a Friend" Gift Cards

You receive an email from a friend saying they need to buy a gift card and are having trouble with their credit card. They ask if you can buy the card and send them the numbers on the back, assuring they'll pay you back.

Stay Safe - Call or text your friend to confirm the person really needs the favor.

Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Payment Requests

Scammers have been demanding payment via money transfer apps like Venmo, Zelle, and Cash App. Once payments are made, they usually cannot be cancelled.

Stay Safe - Only use P2P apps to send money to friends and family. Turn on the security-lock feature that requires entering a passcode to make a payment.

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