Report a Scam Checklist

What to Do If You Spot or Fall Victim to a Scam



Scams can happen to anyone. If you think you've been targeted, don't panic, take these steps to protect yourself and help stop scammers.

Step 1: Stop All Contact

Don't respond to the scammer any further.

Block phone numbers, email addresses, or social media accounts they used to contact you.

Don't send any more money or information.

Step 2: Gather Information

Write down what happened in detail.

Note names, phone numbers, email addresses, websites, and anything the scammer said or sent.

Save screenshots, emails, messages, receipts, or bank records as evidence.

Step 3: Report the Scam

Use these trusted channels to report what happened:

To Action Fraud (UK): actionfraud.police.uk or 0300 123 2040

To Your Bank or Card Provider: If money was sent or stolen

To Your Email Provider or Social Platform: To flag the scam account

To Citizens Advice: 0808 223 1133 for help and guidance

Step 4: Warn Others

Tell family, friends, neighbours, and colleagues about the scam to keep them alert.

Share a warning on local social media or community boards if appropriate. Print or post a Scam Method poster in a shared space.

Step 5: Protect Yourself for the Future

Change passwords for any affected accounts.

Turn on two-factor authentication where possible.

Consider signing up for a credit check or identity monitoring service.

Visit BeScamAware.org for more tips and free resources.

Remember: Reporting a scam helps others stay safe. You're not alone, support is available.

