

Protecting Seniors From Scams

Don't fall prey to elder abuse

1. Take a Partner:

Before making any major financial decisions, talk to a trusted family member or non-profit counselor. Always involve someone else you can rely on to help you spot scams.

2. Control Who Communicates With You:

Don't agree to talk to someone who contacts you out of the blue. You can even set up your smartphone to only allow calls from people already in your contacts list.

3. Verify Their Identity:

Make sure you're talking to someone legitimate, and verify they are who they say they are.

4. Wait Before Acting:

Scammers often pressure their victims to act right away. If someone isn't giving you time to think about a financial offer, don't agree to anything.

5. Protect Your Own Identity:

Don't give out your social security number, bank account numbers, or other info. Control what you post online so people can't guess your passwords or security questions. If you write down passwords, keep them secure.



6. Get Reputable Tech Support:

A lot of software that claims to be anti-virus or security software is actually malicious. Get tech help you can trust and don't be afraid to ask for help.

7. Use Direct Deposit:

Don't let benefit checks sit in your mailbox. Have funds directly deposited into an account only you control.

8. Get on the Do Not Call List:

Call 1-888-382-1222 to get on the Do Not Call Registry. Then, anyone who calls you trying to sell something is defying the registry and shouldn't be trusted.

9. Don't Feel Ashamed:

If you think you may have been taken advantage by a scam, don't let shame keep you from reaching out for help. Scams are common and you have no reason to be embarrassed.

10. Don't Automatically Trust Family:

A lot of scams against seniors are perpetrated by family members. Be careful even if you are dealing with relatives.

Call Credit.org today: 1-800-WISEPLAN

1-800-947-3752

Monday - Friday 6AM-6PM (Pacific)

Saturday 8AM - 12:30PM (Pacific)



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