

#RomCons

How to Protect Yourself from Romance Scams

It's hard to see the signs of a scam when you're in love. Check out the suggestions below to learn how you can protect yourself (and your heart) from becoming a victim.



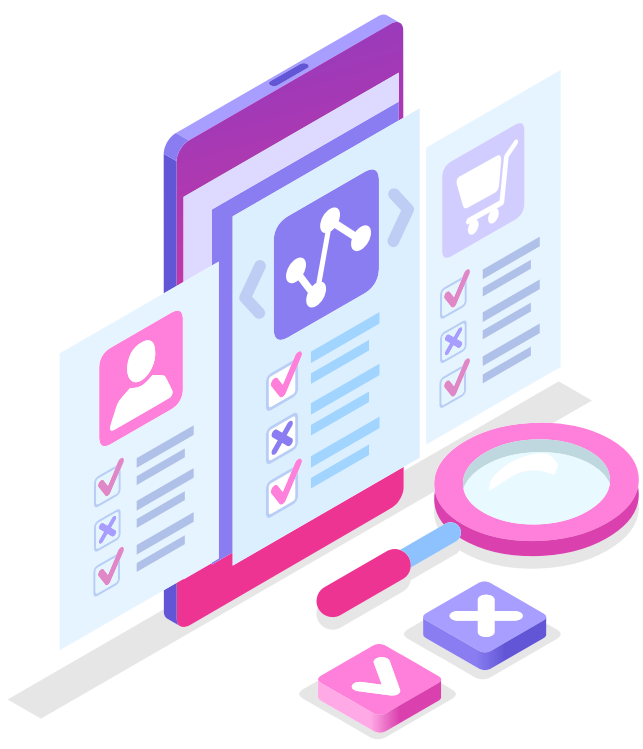
Take 5

In 2021, losses from romance scams reached \$547 million, almost an **80% jump from 2020**. As social media and online dating have continued to gain popularity, it's important to remember to take five minutes to think the authorized push payment through and look for any red flags this may be a scam.



Ask Yourself

- Have they created an uncomfortable sense of urgency?
- Are you unclear about the details regarding repayment or returns?



Google with Scrutiny

Just because it's on the internet doesn't make it true. It's always a good idea to look up a potential match, but please be aware of how easy it is for anyone to launch a webpage that appears legitimate.

Ask Yourself

- Is this a reliable source?
- Can anyone edit this site (e.g. Wikipedia)?

Do the Maths

Financial situations can both improve and worsen throughout our lives, but any drastic changes are an immediate red flag. A "successful millionaire" asking for a \$10,000 loan to close a deal and promising to share the profits once it comes through doesn't make sense.



Ask Yourself

- Do things not add up?
- Are amounts different from what they first mentioned?
- Are they promising a sure thing?

Confirm with an Outside Source

If a transfer is purportedly "in the works" or they "have the clearance from the bank" on their end, don't hesitate to call the bank and confirm. The earlier fraud schemes are identified, the more potential recourses are available, and the victims are spared from accruing further debt. Similarly, don't hesitate to reach out to places of employment to confirm their identity.

Ask Yourself

- Has it been several days without an update?
- Do they keep making excuses about the delay or vague statements?

Trust Yourself

The majority of the advice around these red flags boils down to thinking twice, being careful with trust, and practicing a healthy level of skepticism for anything that's not a reliable, first-party source. Protect your money and your heart by trusting your instincts. If it feels wrong, don't do it!



Ask Yourself

- In these cases, the fraudsters often suffer few consequences while the victims are left with betrayal and monetary loss. Never lend money you are not comfortable losing.



Your customers deserve the best, and NICE Actimize Xceed can help you protect them from romance scams and more.

Benefits

- Effectively mitigate Account Take Over (ATO) fraud in real-time
- Enable secure, friction-right customer experiences with the lowest false positive rates available
- Autonomously adapt to new threats

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Secure your customers' digital acceleration with smarter, better, and faster financial crime management — **all at a lower cost.**

Citations:

- FTC
- Regulation E Definition (investopedia.com)
- Big Business Journal | Lorenzo von Matterhorn
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
- Who Is The Tinder Swindler? Here's where Simon Leviev is now - Netflix Tudum
- Watch The Tinder Swindler | Netflix Official Site

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