

The 5 scams targeting seniors right now

and how to spot each one

This is a short, printable guide. Read it. Keep it somewhere visible. Share it. The best protection any community has is information that gets passed around.



THE GRANDPARENTS SCAM

Someone calls pretending to be your grandchild — scared, in trouble, begging you not to tell anyone. The urgency is intense. The love you feel is real. That's exactly why this scam works.

HOW TO SPOT IT:

Urgency + secrecy + a request for gift cards or cash. Those three things together are a scam, every time

GOVERNMENT IMPERSONATION

A caller says they're from the IRS, Social Security, or law enforcement. You owe money. You'll be arrested. You need to act right now.

HOW TO SPOT IT:

The government sends letters before it calls. Any agency demanding immediate payment by gift card or wire transfer is not a government agency.

The 5 scams targeting seniors right now and how to spot each one

TECH SUPPORT POP UP

A message on your screen says your computer has a virus. Call this number. A professional-sounding person answers and asks to access your computer remotely.

HOW TO SPOT IT:

Real tech companies do not put popup warnings with phone numbers on your screen. If a number appears in a popup — do not call it.

ROMANCE SCAM

You meet someone online. They are warm, attentive, and interesting. They are always overseas. The relationship feels real. Then they need money — for an emergency, a flight, or a crisis.

HOW TO SPOT IT:

Anyone you've never met in person who asks for money. No legitimate new relationship begins with a financial request.

PRIZE AND LOTTERY SCAM

You won something — a prize, a lottery, a sweepstakes. To collect it, you need to pay a small fee first.

HOW TO SPOT IT:

You should never have to pay to receive a prize. If a prize requires payment to collect, it is not a prize. ---When in doubt: go to genguard365.com/is-this-a-scam and tell us what happened. We're here around the clock.

