



# Red flags in online relationships



**Good Things**  
Australia

# Introduction

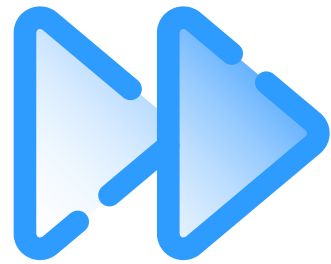


Establishing trust online is a bit different from meeting someone at the local shops because you have to rely entirely on what people choose to show you. Whether you are looking for a new friend or a romantic partner, it is important to remember that genuine people will respect your boundaries and your pace.

By keeping an eye out for "red flags," which are those little warning signs that something isn't quite right, you can enjoy connecting with others while keeping your personal life secure.

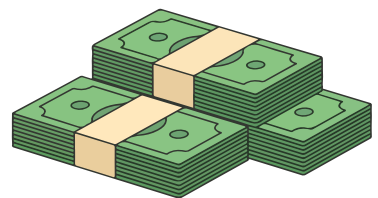
# Warning signs

Some warning signs you should be aware of include, but are not limited to:



## The "Fast Forward" effect:

They start declaring deep feelings, calling you their "soulmate," or claiming you are their "only true friend" within days of meeting. This is a tactic used to overwhelm your judgement.



## Asking for money:

This is the most serious red flag. Whether it is for a "medical emergency," a "loan for a bill," or a "brilliant investment," never send money to someone you have only met online.



## The "Broken Camera" excuse:

If they always have an excuse for why they cannot hop on a quick video call or meet in person, they might not be who they say they are. Genuine people will eventually find a way to show their face.



## Pushing to leave the app:

They try to move you away from the official website and onto WhatsApp or private email almost immediately. This is often done to bypass the safety and reporting features of the platform where you met.

# Warning signs

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## Pressure for private images:

If they push you to send intimate photos or videos before you are ready, they are not respecting your consent. A respectful friend or partner will never make you feel guilty for saying no.



## Stories that don't add up:

You notice that the details of their life keep changing. Perhaps their job is different one day or the story about where they grew up doesn't quite match what they told you before.



## Reacting badly to boundaries:

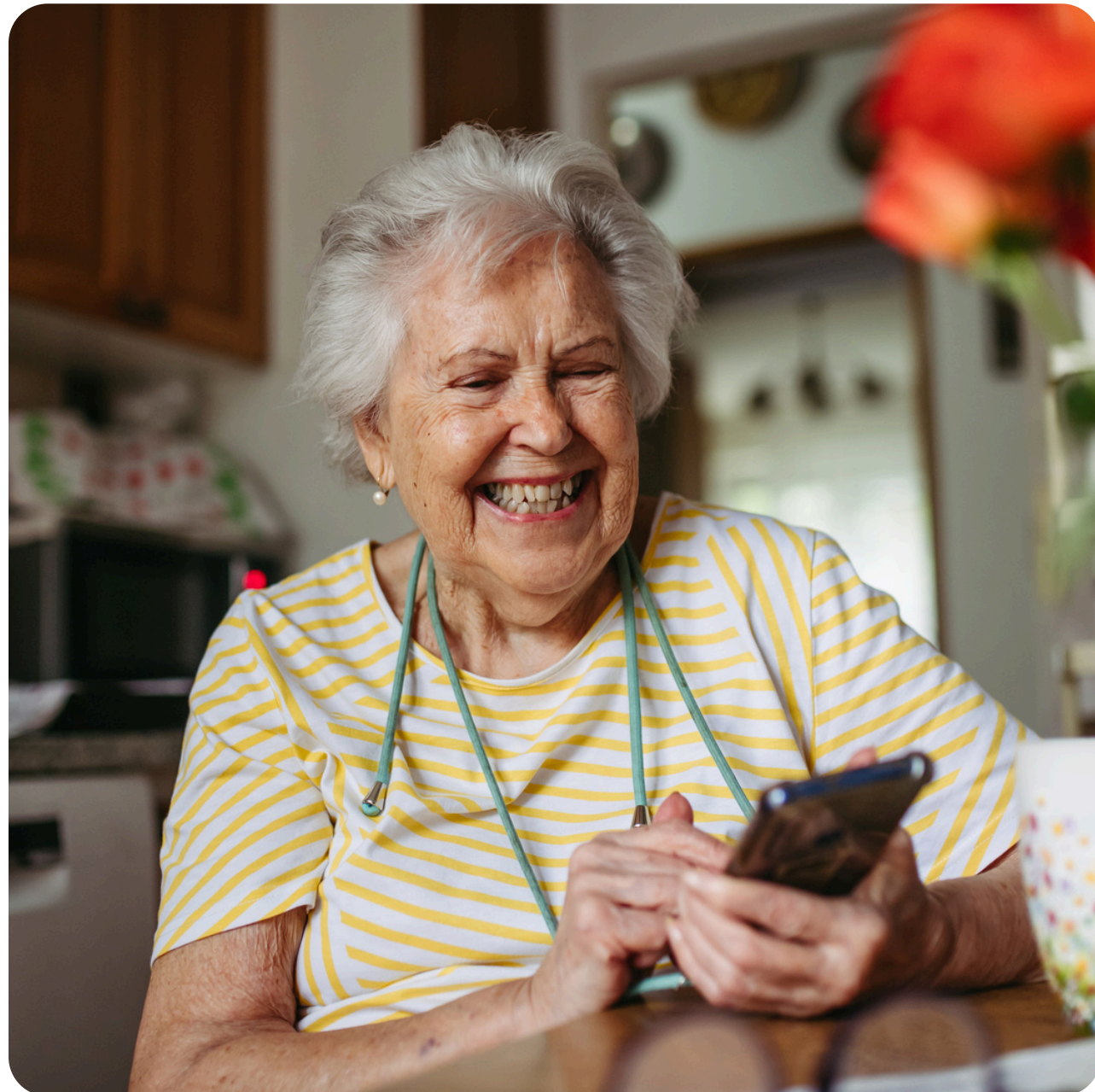
If you say "no" to a request or take a few hours to reply to a text and they react with anger or guilt, it is a sign of a controlling personality.



## Mining for data:

They seem very interested in things like your home address, your date of birth, or your pet's name. This could be an attempt at identity theft rather than a genuine interest in your life.

# Learn more about online relationships



For more information on safety regarding online relationships, you can visit the [eSafety website](#).