

Spotting text scams



Scammers are criminals who try to trick you into sharing your personal information or giving them money.

Here are some things you can look out for to help you spot a text or SMS scam and stay safer online.

Scammers tell you to act fast

Scammers can pretend to be a real business or organisation to try to trick and make you feel like you need to take action before you have time to think. Scammers could do this by:

- Making you feel like you will get in trouble.
- Telling you that you will get a fine, get locked out of your account or money has been taken.
- Saying you will miss out on a special offer.



Tip: Some scammers use current events like tax time or something that has happened in the news to make it look more real.



Scammers use tricks to get a reaction

A scam text might pretend to be a charity, tell you that you won the lottery, or pretend to be your friend.



Tip: Always visit the official website on your browser or official app to log in or get contact details.

Do not click on links, use contact info sent to you in messages or share personal information over text.



Tip: Check the name of the company who sent you an SMS text. If it says 'unverified' it may be a scam.

Think you have been scammed?

- Report the scam to Scamwatch and the police.
- Contact free support services like IDCARE or ID Support NSW to help you make a plan about what to do next.
- If you need someone to talk to, call Lifeline 13 11 14 or Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636.

Keep learning

To learn more Good Things go to www.goodthings.org.au/learn or beconnected.esafety.gov.au



a campaign by  Good Things



supported by

Be Connected
Every Australian online.

