



Scams



Easy English fact sheet

2025



You might need help to read this fact sheet.

A friend, family member or support person
can help you.



What is a scam?

A scam is a trick to get money from you.

Scams can look like they are from a real company.

When an offer seems too good to be true, then it could be a scam.

This book talks about people who try to scam you.

It might be

- one person
- a group of people.



Be careful when the offer says

- you will get lots of money if you do what they ask
- you will get a free present or prize from a competition that you did **not** enter.



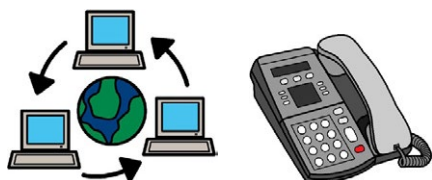
What can you do?

- Do **not** say yes or pay money to people you do **not** know. Do **not** let people rush you.
- Stop and think.
- Take your time.
- Make sure information or bills are real.



How to find out more information

- Talk to your friends and family.
- Look at the company's website.
- Look at these websites and phone numbers



- website www.scamwatch.gov.au

- website www.scamnet.wa.gov.au

or

phone 1300 30 40 54

or

website www.idcare.org

or

phone 1800 595 160

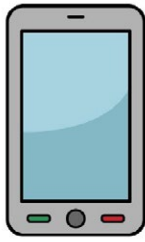


There are many different scams

This fact sheet talks about 6 different scams.

There are other scams.

1. You are a winner! page 5
2. Buy shares or property page 5
3. Send your bank numbers in an email page 6
4. Pay for fake advertising page 7
5. Romance scam page 7
6. Rebate scam page 8



1. You are a winner!

You get a letter or email or text message.

It says **You are a winner!**

- The message asks you to pay money to get a prize.
- The message asks you to ring an expensive phone number to get a prize. For example, 1900 phone numbers.

There is probably **no** prize.

Stop and think.

Did I enter this competition?

No I did **not**. It is a scam.



2. Buy shares or property

The people

- say they are financial or investment advisers
- promise you will get lots of money back.

The people will charge you a very high price.

You will pay a lot more money than you should for the property or shares.

It is a scam.



3. Send your bank numbers in an email

You get an email asking for your bank numbers.
The email says it is from a bank.

- No bank sends emails to ask for your bank details.
- The scam email might tell you to click on a link.
The link will take you to a fake website.
- The people will use your bank numbers to steal money from you.

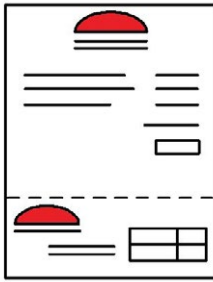
It is a scam.



Warning

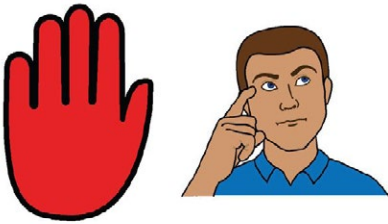
Never send your bank details to anyone
you do **not** know.

Never send your bank details in an email.



4. Pay for fake advertising

- You get a fake bill.
- You get lots of phone calls asking you to pay for something.



Stop and think

- Did I order this?
- Did I sign anything?
- Did someone sign something for me?

This is a scam.



5 Romance scam

- You meet a person online.
- The person sends you emails or calls you. The person asks you to give them money for something.



Warning

Do not

- give your bank details
- send money to a person you have not met face to face.

This is a scam.

Listen to warnings from friends and family.



6. Rebate scam

- A person emails or phones you.
- The person says they are from a bank or the government.
- The person says they owe you money and want you to pay a fee so you can get the money.



Warning

- Check where the person is from.
- Call the bank or government.
- Do not
 - give your bank details
 - pay money to get money back.

This is a scam.



Consumer Protection WA

More fact sheets and information

List of fact sheets in Easy English

- Buying Furniture
- Contracts
- Lay-by
- Phone and door to door sales
- Renting - starting a tenancy
- Renting - during a tenancy
- Renting - ending a tenancy
- Refunds, replacements and repairs
- Scams
- Services
- Shopping tips



Phone 1300 30 40 54



Mail Locked Bag 100
East Perth WA 6892



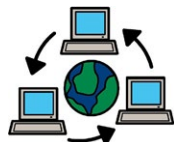
Interpreter 131 450



National Relay Service 133 677



Email consumer@demirs.wa.gov.au



Website www.consumerprotection.wa.gov.au



This information is written in **Easy English**.
You might need more information about the law.
You can ask **Consumer Protection WA**.

Updated February 2025.

Easy English fact sheet updated by
Consumer Protection WA.

Look at **Clear Written Communications -
The Easy English Style Guide** for
information about the format and writing
style of this document.

You can find more information at
www.scopevic.org.au or
phone 03 9843 2000.

© Scope (Aust) Ltd. You may use this document for your own personal, non-commercial purposes **only**. You must not use the document for any other purpose, and must not copy, reproduce, digitise, communicate, adapt, modify the document or any part of it (or authorise any other person to do so) without the prior consent of Scope (Aust) Ltd.

Scope's Communication and Inclusion Resource Centre wrote the Easy English. August 2016 www.scopevic.org.au. To see the original contact Consumer Affairs Victoria.

The Picture Communication Symbols ©1981–2010 by Mayer-Johnson. LLC. All Rights Reserved Worldwide. Used with permission. Boardmaker™ is a trademark of Mayer-Johnson LLC. Valuing People ClipArt © Inspired Services, UK.

www.inspiredservices.org.uk.

Change pictures © 2011. www.changepeople.co.uk.

**Department of Energy, Mines,
Industry Regulation and Safety**

www.demirs.wa.gov.au

Regional Offices:

Goldfields/Esperance	(08) 9021 9494
Great Southern	(08) 9842 8366
Kimberley	(08) 9191 8400
Mid West	(08) 9920 9800
North West	(08) 9185 0900
South West	(08) 9722 2888

Consumer Protection Division

Gordon Stephenson House
Level 2/140 William Street
Perth Western Australia 6000

Locked Bag 100, East Perth WA 6892

Call: 1300 30 40 54

Email: consumer@demirs.wa.gov.au

www.consumerprotection.wa.gov.au



Disclaimer: The information contained in this fact sheet is provided as general information and a guide only. It should not be relied upon as legal advice or as an accurate statement of the relevant legislation provisions. If you are uncertain as to your legal obligations, you should obtain independent legal advice.

This publication is available in other formats on request.

National Relay Service: 13 36 77
Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS): 13 14 50