

Spot the scams!

Here are a few scam tips to help you spot scams and Be Scam Smart.

1. The Government of Canada will not demand immediate payment by:
 - E-transfer
 - Cryptocurrency
 - Prepaid credit cards
 - Gift cards from retailers
2. Official government messages will not use aggressive language or threaten you with arrest or police action.
3. The CRA will not ask for personal or financial information by email or text.
4. The CRA will not use text messages or instant messaging to start a conversation with you about your taxes, benefits, or My Account under any circumstance.
5. The Government of Canada will not ask you to click on a link through text or email.
6. The CRA will not send a link to your refund or an online form for you to fill out. They will only send links by email that you asked for during a phone call or meeting with a CRA agent.
7. The Government of Canada uses text to send multi-factor authentication (MFA) codes when you sign into its sign-in services like CRA My Account or My Service Canada Account.
8. The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) does not initiate requests for your SIN or credit card number by telephone, text, or email.
9. The CBSA will not call telling you that you must pay duty and taxes on a package they're holding. Duty and taxes are collected by the couriers (e.g., Canada Post).
10. When an official CRA agent calls you, they will provide you with their name. If you are suspicious of them, you can tell them you want to verify their identity. Ask for their name, phone number, and office location. End the call and contact the CRA at the number provided on canada.ca to verify the agent's identity.



Some scams are easy to spot. Some are not.
Learn the signs at canada.ca/be-scam-smart



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