

Fake check scams could cost YOU thousands of dollars...

It all starts when someone gives you a realistic-looking check or money order and asks you to wire them money somewhere in return. It's phony, and so is the person's story, but that may take weeks – even months – to discover.



Foreign Business Offers

They promise you millions.

Offers come in many varieties, from many countries, but none of the promises come true.

They pretend to be business people or government officials.

Real companies and government agencies don't contact strangers in countries to offer business propositions.

Work-at-Home

They promise easy money working at home.

If it was so easy, why wouldn't we all be working in our pajamas?

They ask you to help process payments.

You deposit the check and send them the money minus your "pay". Real companies don't do business in this manner.

Love Losses

You think you've found someone special online.

But maybe you've been specially selected for a scam.

They promise to come to the US to be with you.

But they need you to cash a check or money order to cover travel expenses.

Overpayments

They don't really want the merchandise, they want your money.

They offer overpayments on items you advertised in the classifieds online auction.

They claim they sent the wrong amount by "mistake".

They ask you to deposit the check in your account and return the excess to them.

Rental Schemes

They claim to be moving from outside the area, even from another country.

They send a check to cover shipping costs and ask you to forward the excess to someone else.

They have unexpected expenses, so send some of the deposit back as a favor.

But they never intend to move in. By the time you've discovered the scam, they've already found their next victim.

Sudden Riches

They say you won a foreign lottery or sweepstakes.

But that's impossible unless you traveled to that country to enter, since it's illegal to buy or sell tickets across the US border.

Or they claim that you've been selected to receive a cash grant.

But instead of giving you money, their plan is to steal money from you.

