



# ROMANCE SCAMS



**Someone contacts you on social media - and say they're interested in getting to know you.**

**Or maybe you meet someone special on a dating website or mobile app.**

**Soon the person wants to write to you directly or start talking on the phone. They say it's true love, but they live far away - maybe because of work, or because they're in the military. Then... they start asking for money. Maybe it's for a plane ticket to visit you. Or emergency surgery. Or something else urgent.**

**Scammers of all ages, genders, and sexual orientations make fake profiles, sometimes using photos of other people - even stolen pictures of real military personnel. They build relationships - some even pretend to plan weddings - before they disappear with your money.**



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**Here's what you can do:**

- **Stop. DON'T SEND MONEY. NEVER** send cash, or send money using gift cards, wire transfers, cryptocurrency, or a payment app to an online love interest. Once you pay this way, it's hard to get your money back.
- Pass this information on to a friend. You may not have gotten tangled up with a romance scam, but chances are, you know someone who will - if they haven't already.