

# The Online Dater's Guide to Romance Scams

Once you know what you're looking for, romance scammers can actually be very easy to identify and avoid. Check out these common behaviors and examples to learn how to spot a scammer.



## #1 Tip: NEVER Give Someone Money

There is no reason for anyone to ask you for money or your financial information while you're online dating. If someone asks you for money, stop your contact with them and report him or her immediately.



## How to Spot Scammers' Dating Profiles

There's always a little something off about a scammer's dating profile. Look out for common giveaways.



- 🔍 Lots of grammar and spelling mistakes
- 🔍 Photos don't match written details in their profile
- 🔍 Often claim to be a widower or a widower with kids
- 🔍 Jobs that call for them to be out of the country or state:
  - members of the military
  - oil rig or refinery workers
  - gemstone dealers
  - contractors on an out-of-state project

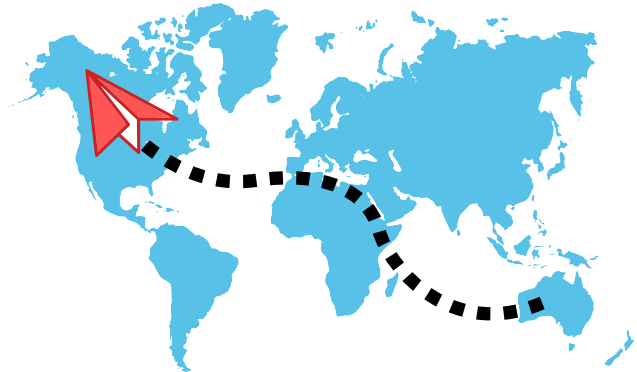
**📌 Quick Tip: Do a photo check.**

For extra protection, save a copy of someone's profile picture and do a [Google image search](#). If the results you get don't match what they've told you, they could be a scammer.

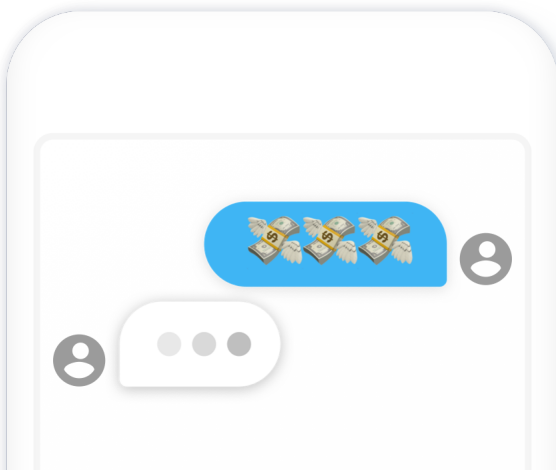
# Common Scammer Behaviors

Scammers often act the same way. Keep an eye out for these behaviors:

- 🚩 Contacting you from another country
- 🚩 Claiming to be from your country or state but stuck in a foreign country
- 🚩 Refusing to meet in person or talk on the phone
- 🚩 Claiming to love you right away or getting serious very quickly
- 🚩 Being overly complimentary
- 🚩 Saying they're looking for a serious relationship right away



- 🚩 Pressuring you for your phone number, email, or other contact information
- 🚩 Asking to communicate through a channel other than the dating site you met on
- 🚩 Repeating things you say
- 🚩 Getting your name, or even their name wrong
- 🚩 Dodging your questions without providing answers
- 🚩 Trying to sell you products or services
- 🚩 Giving away a lot of personal information right away
- 🚩 Asking you for money or your financial information



# Things to Look for in Military Romance Scams

Many members of the U.S. military do date online, but scammers can also pose as members of the military in order to make claims that the military doesn't support them financially and get you to send them money. Common lies include:

- ⚠️ Needing money so they can go on leave
- ⚠️ Needing you to pay someone else to request leave on their behalf
- ⚠️ Needing money in order to keep communicating with you
- ⚠️ Needing permission or payment to get married
- ⚠️ Needing money to pay for early retirement
- ⚠️ Needing money for medical care for a family member or her/himself
- ⚠️ Needing to pay for military aircraft to transport privately owned vehicles
- ⚠️ Needing money from the public to feed or house their troops
- ⚠️ Needing help getting money they found out of the country

# Examples of Things Scammers May Say

Many scammers give themselves away in their first message. Here are some examples:

Good Mornign to you, Am Fisher Bolin by name 34years old single mother with one belovely son, i was born and raised in Beech Grove Indiana and looking forward for honest, caring,lovely, serious, respect,humble ,loyal,trustworthy and God fearing man to settle down with for the rest of my life.... If you are the lucky guy here is my cell number +1 555-555-5555 ]to start knowing more about each other....

hi,how are you?I'm Natali(i like u:). Unfortunately I'm not a premium memberr and I can send 1 message to a freebie :) write me an ema1i I will be glad to talk with you. maybe we can meet. my ma1i: email@hotmail.com .I'll wait.

hello beautiful. im ETHAN and would honestly want to get get to know you more if you don't mind. you can reach me always through 555-555-5555. as im not always available on here. thank you as i look forward to hearing from you

hi ,Im Katy.how are you? I liked u. unfortunately I dont have a suuubscript.I can send only 1 message for freebie:). write me an email I will be glad to talk with you. maybe we can meet. my mail: email@hotmail.com :) write quickly, I'll wait!

Hi Beautiful!How was your weekend?Wanted to compliment you on your beauty and yes I do have to admit that you have exquisite looks, specially your eyes are very attractive and you have a distinctly sensual smile.It is a privilege to have found you here. Rich

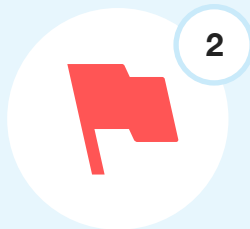
I'm here seeking a lifetime partner a serious relationship that can lead to marriage i live in dallas, i'm a us military army ,5'6'' from PR add me on facebook(FACEBOOKNAME) or google hangout(email@gmail.com)

Read more [examples of things romance scammers say](#).

## What to Do If You Suspect Someone Is a Scammer



**Immediately stop communication**



**Report the person's account**  
on the dating or social site you're using



**File a complaint**  
with the FBI's [Internet Crime Complaint Center](#)

**For more information visit:**

<https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/romance-scams>

<http://www.cid.army.mil/romancescam.html>

<https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/media/video-0119-online-romance-imposter-scams>