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- MENU -

4 THINGS YOU CAN DO IF YOU'VE JUST BEEN SCAMMED ONLINE



Alex Vidal | May 30, 2015 | European Women | online dating, safety tips, scam prevention

Unfortunately scams on [online dating sites](#) aren't rare. People often forget to consider their own safety on online dating portals because they are so focused on finding love. While we recognize that it is a noble and understandable goal, we stress that you need to think about protecting yourself. If you're new to online dating you should definitely do proper research and read both the success and the horror stories, tips on how to spot scammers and so forth as your safety should always be a priority.

If you happen to be in a situation where you realize you've just been scammed online, then here are 4 things you can do:



1. If you've passed on your sensitive bank information...

In this case immediately contact your customer hotline of your personal bank. Tell them the details of what just happened and they will recommend a variety of actions for you. You will have the option of closing the account, switching PINS or passwords you have. They will update your info right away and make your funds safe right away.

2. If it happens you've just been scammed on your Credit Card

This is similar to the previous point where you must call your bank or the company that has issued the card. You can have them block the card and also monitor the latest activities on it. It is important to determine which credit activities are your own and which belong to the scammer.

IMPORTANT: You need to call your bank or credit card company using the number on the back of your card on your current statement.

3. If it happens you've fallen for Identity Theft

This is most likely the most difficult out of all the issues since it is not only your money but your name on the line. Start keeping a journal of the activities that have had your name involved in them. Freeze all your accounts and block any opportunity for transactions. Should you be in the States – file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). After that you need to also file a police report and then another one with the National Consumers League at [Fraud.org](#). Be prepared to be very patient since solving these cases can take quite some time.

4. If you've been scammed out of money

In this situation you've sent money to someone you've met over the net and thought was authentic. It is important to understand that you may not actually get this money back since it is difficult to catch scammers located on the other side of the globe. Also it is difficult to prove that this wasn't consensual. Basically all you can do is report the person to the website's authorities and also the Internet Crime Complaint Center.

Remember to:

*Not give out all personal data in online interactions

*Learn from other people's mistakes

*Cut all ties between yourself and the scammer. You won't convince them to give you your money back.

*Only sign up to [sites with a proper anti-scam policy](#).

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Reviewed by: Alex Vidal

Rating: ★★★★★

On May 30, 2015

Last modified: August 16, 2015

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