

Discussion guide: Avoiding online scams

This guide is a companion piece to our Get Online Week discussion on avoiding online scams, available on YouTube. It includes suggested discussion questions, an activity and signposting to further resources.

Discussion questions

- What are your thoughts on the discussion we've just watched?
 - What was one thing you've learnt?
 - Is there anything from it you might tell someone else about?

- Had you heard about or experienced any online scams before today?
 - What was it?
 - Has anyone you know been affected?

- What are some of the ways you can check if something's a scam
 - What can you do if you've received a message you're not sure about?

- Do you remember some examples of copycat websites?

- What should you do if you think you've been scammed?
 - Who should you contact?

Activity

This activity is intended to help people develop skills in searching for and evaluating information on the internet, whilst also learning more about the subject.

The website in the activity also features a short animated video, 'Helping you protect yourself from scams'. This is a good way to reinforce some of the things mentioned in the online discussion.

Let's check the advice for spotting TV licence scams.

- Search the internet for **tv licence scams**
- Select the first result: TV licensing: Helping you avoid TV Licensing scams
- Watch the video and read the information on the website
- Discuss what information people felt was the most important

Signposting to further information

The following websites are recommended for further information and discussion. Each website listed is the first result when using the suggested search term.

- [learnmyway.com](https://www.learnmyway.com) (free learning with topics on safety and security online)
 - Search for **learn my way**
- [takefive-stopfraud.org.uk](https://www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk) (general advice, support and toolkit)
 - Search for **take five fraud**
- [actionfraud.police.uk](https://www.actionfraud.police.uk) (where to report fraud, they also have a phone number)
 - Search for **action fraud**