

Matrimonial safety & scam prevention guide

A simple guide to staying safe while looking for a life partner online

Finding a life partner online is exciting, but it is important to protect yourself. This guide will help you spot fake profiles, protect your private information, and meet people without taking risks.

1. Common Types of Online Scams

Scammers often use fake stories to make you trust them quickly. Here are the most common scams:

- **The Overseas Professional:** They claim to have high-paying jobs abroad (like a doctor, soldier, or engineer). They use distance as an excuse for why they can't meet in person.
- **Rush of Affection (Love Bombing):** They say they love you within a few days. They do this to make you act with emotion instead of logic.
- **The Fake Gift or Customs Trap:** They tell you they sent you expensive gifts or gold. Then, a fake official calls you asking for money to release the package.
- **Investment & Crypto Advice:** They ask you to join a business or send money to an investment app to "build a future together."

GOLDEN RULE: Never send money, gift cards, or bank details to anyone you meet online, no matter what emergency they claim to have. Real partners will never ask you for money.

2. Red flags to watch out for

Use this quick table to spot suspicious profiles early:

Warning Sign	What They Do or Say	What It Really Means
Model Photos	Only 1 or 2 studio-quality photos with no everyday pictures.	The photos are likely stolen from the internet.
Rushing Off the Site	<i>"I don't use this site often. Chat with me on WhatsApp immediately."</i>	They want to take you away from the safety tools on the website.
Excuses for No Video Calls	<i>"My camera is broken" or "My job doesn't allow video calls."</i>	They are hiding their true face, age, or identity.
Strange Details	Their age, education, and job details don't make sense together.	The profile is fake and run by a scammer.

3. How to check if photos are real

You can check if a person's photo is stolen in 3 easy steps:

1. **Save the Photo:** Download or screenshot their profile picture on your phone or computer.
2. **Open Google Images:** Go to **images.google.com** on your browser and click the camera icon.
3. **Upload the Image:** Choose the saved picture. If the photo appears under different names on other websites, the profile is fake.

Tip: Search for their name, job, and school on LinkedIn or social media.
Most real professionals have a public profile online.

4. Things you should keep private

Do not share these details with someone until you have met them in person and trust them completely:

- **Your Home Address:** Tell them your general city, but never your exact house or street number.
- **Your Exact Office Location:** Mention your job field, but don't give your exact office floor or branch.
- **Financial Details:** Never share your salary, bank balance, or property details.
- **Government ID Cards:** Never send photos of your passport or ID card.
- **Private Photos:** Never send private pictures that could be used against you later.

5. Safe dating rules for first meetings

When you are ready to meet in person, follow these rules:

1. **Video Call First:** Always have a live video chat before meeting face-to-face.
2. **Pick a Public Place:** Meet at a busy café or restaurant during the daytime.
3. **Use Your Own Transport:** Drive yourself or take a taxi. Never let them pick you up at your home on the first date.
4. **Tell a Friend or Family Member:** Share the location, time, and the person's photo with someone close to you.
5. **Share Your Live Location:** Turn on live location sharing on your phone so a family member can see where you are.

6. What to do if you see a scam

If you suspect someone is a scammer:

1. **Stop Talking to Them:** Block their phone number and social media immediately. Do not argue with them.
2. **Save Evidence:** Take screenshots of your messages, their phone number, and their profile.

3. **Report the Profile:** Use the "Report" button on the matrimonial site so the website can remove them.
4. **Inform Authorities:** If you lost money, inform your bank and file a report with your local police or cybercrime portal.