



Do you really know
**who you are
talking to?**



**Kent
Police**

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Use these steps to keep yourself, and your loved ones, safe from fraudsters.

D

Don't rush into an online relationship – get to know the person, not the profile, ensuring you ask plenty of questions. The vast majority of romance fraud is initiated online.

A

Analyse their profile – protect yourself by confirming their identity. Check the person is genuine by putting the following into your search engine; their name, profile pictures and any repeatedly used phrases, along with the term 'dating scam'. Be mindful that a fraudster could be hiding behind an alias and have changed details connecting them to previous fraudulent activity.

T

Talk to your friends and family – be wary of anyone who tells you not to tell others about them. Romance fraud involves grooming over a long period of time. Alienating a victim from their friends and family can make up part of that process.

E

Evade scams – *never* send money or share your bank details with someone you've only met online. It doesn't matter how long you've been speaking to them or what story they give behind needing the sum.

S

Stay on the dating site messenger service – fraudsters will often encourage their victims to use different communication channels that are often undetectable. Be confident that you know who you're speaking to, and be wary if they fail to meet you in person.



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Contacting Kent Police

Report a non-urgent crime online www.kent.police.uk/report

Talk to us on LiveChat – available 24/7 www.kent.police.uk/contact

In an emergency, if crime is in progress or life is in danger call **999**

If deaf or speech impaired, text ' **police**' and your message to **60066**

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