

# Don't Invest in a Scammer

Did you know that romance scams and investment scams sometimes go hand in hand? One common tactic used by romance scammers is to meet people through dating platforms and lure them into investing in fake investment platforms. Criminals may also persuade their victims to purchase cryptocurrency, which they can later steal for themselves.



## How does an investing scam work?

Scammers often pretend to be interested in:

- **Friendship**
- **Relationships**
- **Investing**



Scammers often hide their identity by using stolen photos or AI-generated pictures. They try to earn your trust and make you believe they have special tips or tricks to help you make big profits from investing.

Cybercriminals approach their victims through text messages, dating apps, social media platforms, and even WhatsApp calls. Once they've gained the victim's trust, they move the conversation to a more private messaging app and begin talking about attractive and highly profitable investment opportunities.



The victim is encouraged to invest through a fake investment platform that appears legitimate but is actually controlled by the criminals. At first, the victim may see fictitious profits and even receive small withdrawals, all designed to build trust and persuade them to invest more money.

When the victim attempts to withdraw larger sums, they are required to pay fabricated fees and taxes. Despite making these payments, the profits never reach their account, and the victim risks losing their entire investment.

## Protect yourself from scams

- ✓ Be careful where you're investing your money. Seek investment advice from your own bank.
- ✓ Don't send money to people you meet online, and don't invest based on their advice.
- ✓ Don't download or use unfamiliar apps. Remember, even video calls and investment platforms that seem legitimate could be run by scammers.

## Warning signs

- ⚠ An unexpected contact from an unknown person.
- ⚠ A new online acquaintance starts praising a unique investment opportunity. A sense of urgency to seize the opportunity quickly is likely part of a scam.
- ⚠ You receive suspicious links.

## If you are a victim of an investment scam

- 🚫 Stop communicating with the scammer.
- 📄 Save all information related to the scam.
- 📞 Contact your bank, inform them of what happened, and follow their instructions.
- 👮 File a police report.
- 🙋 Seek support for recovery and handling the situation.



More information about romance scams:  
[nettideitturva.fi/info/in-english](https://nettideitturva.fi/info/in-english)