

# Online Fraud & Cyber Crime

## Reporting Fraud

Fraud and Cyber crime is reported nationally to **Action fraud**.

Via phone **0300 123 2040**

Or online

<https://actionfraud.police.uk/>

## Useful Contacts

National Cyber Crime Unit

**0370 496 7622**

UK Finance

**0207 706 3333**

Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline

**03454 04 05 06**

## Fraudster Techniques

- **Spoofing:** Making an email/text/call look like it's coming from someone else.
- **Phishing:** Fraudulent emails
- **Smishing:** Fraudulent text message
- **Vishing:** Fraudulent phone calls.

## 7 Tips to avoid Cyber crime

1. Have a strong password
2. Have an (up to date) anti virus
3. Update software – install patches
4. Back up your data regularly
5. Don't click on links / open attachments (unless verified) in emails or texts
6. Set privacy settings on social media
7. Avoid public Wi-Fi for personal activities

## Resources & Advice

[www.met.police.uk/littlemedia](http://www.met.police.uk/littlemedia)

Electronic copies of our leaflets and links to our animations

Email: [cyberprotect@met.police.uk](mailto:cyberprotect@met.police.uk)

<https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk>

*"National campaign that offers straight-forward and impartial advice to help everyone protect themselves from preventable financial fraud"*

<https://www.getsafeonline.org>

*"UK's leading source of unbiased, factual and easy-to-understand information on online safety"*

[www.haveibeenpwned.com](http://www.haveibeenpwned.com)

Enter your email to see if it's ever appeared in a breach.

[www.turnon2fa.com](http://www.turnon2fa.com)

Step by step instructions on how to activate 2 factor authentication on a large number of websites.

## Creating Strong Passwords

1. Three random words  
**fish boat tulip**
2. Capitalise some letters  
19fisHboaTtuliP95
2. Add some numbers  
**19fisHboatTuliP95**
4. Add special characters  
19fisHboaTtuliP95!!



## Fraud Type Summaries

### Online Shopping

Victims are convinced in to paying money for items that don't exist or are counterfeit when shopping online.

### Advance Fee

Victims are encouraged to pay an advance fee with promise of a larger amount back in return. E.g. a scam email from "HMRC" requesting an admin fee for taxes owed.

### Investment Fraud

Victims are pressured in to making "investments" that don't actual exist or have no chance of the financial return suggested.

### Payment Fraud

(aka Mandate fraud) When transactions between genuine seller and consumer are intercepted or spoofed and payment details are altered to an account controlled by the fraudster.

### Computer Software Fraud

Fraudsters pretend to be computer engineers offering to "fix" victims computer over the internet. Download software to compromise their online banking / personal data or charge extortionate amounts.

## Stats Overview

**37% of all crime has a cyber element.**

*Office for National Statistics*

**UK citizens are 20 times more likely to be defrauded at their computers then held up in the street.**

*-National Cyber Security Centre*

**Over-65s are three times more likely to lose money to fraudsters than to be burgled**

*-Centre for Counter Fraud Studies*

### Courier Fraud

Victims are called by fraudsters pretending to be police, HMRC or from the victims bank and convince them to give their card details over the phone. Or in some cases, transfer money to a "safe account," buy gift vouchers or to go and withdraw money as part of an "investigation."

The fraudsters arrange for a courier to pick up the victims card or cash to take it away for "evidence".

