

Will you be loved up?

Or stitched up?



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Online dating can be a great way to find romance.

But it's also a common way to be scammed.



Whether you're an online dating regular or trying it out for the first time, no doubt you'll love the convenience and choice. And, of course, the anticipation of clicking with Mr or Ms Right.



In common with many other things you do online, dating can carry risks apart from a broken heart, like:

- Getting tricked out of your life savings by someone you thought you had a genuine relationship with, but is actually a scammer
- Revealing too much on your webcam, only to get threatened with blackmail or revenge porn
- Paying ongoing fees to continue a relationship with someone who is actually a fake profile
- Losing money to fraudulent dating sites posing as real ones
- Being stalked, harassed or bullied online or in person
- Putting yourself in danger when meeting someone in person for the first time

These are real problems experienced by innocent victims. Unless you take a few simple precautions and **think twice** before you act, they could happen to you too.

However well you think you know someone you've met online, never take anything for granted.

Get some comprehensive, expert, free advice on safe online dating by visiting our specialist information and advice page.

In the meantime, here are some top tips to take on board, even if you reckon you're a seasoned professional at online dating:

- ♥ **Don't reveal too much personal information** that could lead to fraud or stalking
- ♥ **Choose and use safe, reputable dating sites**
- ♥ **Choose and using safe passwords** and keep them strictly to yourself
- ♥ **Take your time and always think twice:**
 - Is the person you're dating really who they claim to be?
 - Are their intentions honourable?
 - Are they seeking your affection, or after your money?
- ♥ **Report problems**
- ♥ **Think very carefully** before undressing or performing intimate acts on your webcam or in photos



Get the full story ...

We can't guarantee that you'll find romance, but for everything you need to know about protecting yourself and your savings when dating online, please visit www.getsafeonline.org and choose 'Protecting Yourself' then 'Safe Online Dating'



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