

Protecting yourself and others from scams online



The internet is a great tool that can help us chat, game, learn and explore. But whether you prefer watching videos, gaming with friends, finding new apps to explore, or something else, the chances are you've also seen a scam or two online.

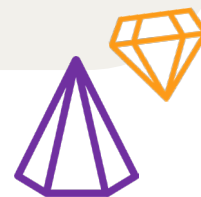


Whatever platform you spend your time on, we know there are some people who may try to trick you for their own gain.

Childnet and Roblox have created this quick quiz to help you reflect on how to spot scams and keep yourself safe from them.

Answer the questions below to find out your play personality and check out the tips on staying safe from scams from the Childnet Youth Advisory Board.

For each question make a note of your answer – you'll need these later to work out your play personality.



Question 1 Your answer:

You are playing online and using a separate chat alongside the game. One of your team members shares a link. You've played and chatted with them before and they've always seemed trustworthy, but the link looks weird. What do you do?

A

Report the link just in case the player has been hacked.

B

Don't click it. Unless you know where a link is taking you, you don't want to risk getting caught out by a scam.

C

You think your team member is trustworthy so click on the link to see what they're sharing.

D

Ignore the link and focus on the game. Distractions might mean letting the whole team down.

Question 2 Your answer:

You are chatting to another player in an online game. They ask you to add them on a messaging app so you can talk on there instead. You do not know them offline, but you have been playing with them for a while now. What do you do?

A

Ignore the question and change the topic back to the game. Decide to watch out for any future requests from them.

B

Politely say no but suggest you can keep messaging via the game instead.

C

Pretend you're not allowed the messaging app so you don't hurt their feelings and keep chatting just on the game instead.

D

Ask them why they want to move the chat to see if they have a reason.

Question 3 Your answer:

You see a video telling viewers to use their favourite celebrity, birthday, and street name, to create a nickname and post it in the comments. What do you do?

A

Report the video as you're worried this might be an attempt to get people's personal information.

B

Comment with your nickname and like comments from people who've posted their own good ones.

C

Work out your nickname and then send the video to your friends to see what theirs are.

D

Look through the comments to see what other people are posting and see if any are similar to yours.

Question 4 Your answer:

You get a message in a game from an account called 'AdminTeam'. They say your account has been 'compromised' and they need you to 'verify your identity' to continue using it. They say to check your emails and confirm with them the verification code which has been sent to you. What do you do?

A

Ask the AdminTeam account questions to check the account is real.

B

Follow the instructions to protect your account. Message your friends separately to let them know what's happened. You don't want them to click on anything your account sends out.

C

Check your email to see if a code has been sent. Keep the code to yourself after you see the email says to never share it. Follow instructions in the email to report that you had not asked for a code.

D

Block and report the AdminTeam account as you think it might be a scam.

Change your password on your account and tell an adult just in case.

Question 5 Your answer:

You're having trouble beating a hard level on an online game. You ask another player for some tips. They reply saying they can log in to your account and they will get you past the level so you can carry on with the game. What do you do?

A

Refuse the offer and report the account. Sharing login details breaks the rules of the game and they might lock you out of your own account.

B

Thank them for the offer and ask if there's a way they can show you how to do it, without needing to give them your login details.

C

Let them know that you don't want them to do it for you as you wouldn't really be 'beating' the level, and you will just keep practising instead.

D

Decide it would be more fun to work it out without their help and find some streamers who play the game to see what tactics they use.

Question 6 Your answer:

You see an advert online offering free in-game currency for a popular new game. The ad has the official logo for the game and the images match with other ads you've seen for the same game. What do you do?

A

Go to the game website to see if you can find the special offer on their official page.

B

Ignore the ad. This seems too good to be true and you don't want to risk getting scammed.

C

Ignore the ad. You'd prefer to progress in the game because of your own skills instead of taking free stuff.

D

Click the ad to see if it's real so you can send it to all your friends who use the game.

Question 7 Your answer:

One of your friends messages you about another player in a game who has been bullying them. They suggest pranking the player by offering a trade, but then not giving them anything in return. What do you do?

A

You know that this breaks the rules of the game, so tell them this is a bad idea and that it could get you both banned.

B

Suggest to your friend finding a different game you can both play where this other player can't upset them!

C

It sounds like a laugh and there's no real harm to the other player if they lose an online item, so agree to the prank – just this time!

D

Find out more about the rules around bullying on the game and tell your friend how to report and block.

Question 8 Your answer:

Your favourite streamer launched some new merch but it sold out really quickly. You see a comment online from someone saying they ordered the wrong size and are selling it online. When you click on the item, the price is more than you were expecting, and the photos are just the ones from the streamer's shop. What do you do?

A

Decide it is too hard to tell if this is real and wait to see if the streamer releases some more merch.

B

Message the seller and ask if they have any photos to show that they actually have the merch.

C

Message the seller explaining you're also a fan of the streamer and asking if they'd consider dropping the price for you.

D

Research the seller and check their reviews to see what other people think.

Question 9 Your answer:

You get a message online from someone who says they have "embarrassing photos" of you. They threaten to share them with all your friends if you don't send them money. What do you do?

A

Research to see if there's a way they could have got your photos and decide that this is a type of scam, so ignore their message.

B

Message your friends to see what they think. Follow their advice and tell an adult about what's happening.

C

You've heard about these scams before, so you report the message on the platform where it was sent.

D

You know what this person is doing isn't okay, but also don't want to risk the photos being shared, so send them your pocket money just in case.

Question 10 Your answer:

An account contacts you saying they are looking for someone to promote their gaming brand and that you'd be perfect. They say it's how all the best streamers make money. All you need to do is share some details with them and then they will let you know what happens next. What do you do?

A

You think this could be risky, so you block the account and tell an adult what has happened.

B

Reply and let them know you aren't interested but thank them for thinking of you.

C

Talk to your friends about it to see if they have heard of it before.

D

You think this sounds too good to be true, so you ignore the message.

Answers

Each answer corresponds to a different gem.

Look at the answer you gave for each question and count up how many of each gem you collected.

Each gem represents something different – so see which gem you collected the most of to find your *play personality* – or maybe you've got a mix!

Count your total number of...



Circle each answer you chose

1	A		B		C		D	
2	A		B		C		D	
3	A		B		C		D	
4	A		B		C		D	
5	A		B		C		D	
6	A		B		C		D	
7	A		B		C		D	
8	A		B		C		D	
9	A		B		C		D	
10	A		B		C		D	

Your play personality is alert.

You're pretty tuned in to scams and other dangers online. You keep your eyes open and look out for signs that something might not be safe.

Being alert to danger is great but remember that, if something does go wrong, it's not your fault. It's never too late to get help and there are plenty of people and places you can go to for support.



Your play personality is respectful.

You want the internet to be a place where people treat each other with respect and kindness. You try to lead by example, being polite and respectful to everyone.

Being respectful is an important quality but not everyone will treat you the same in return. Remember to use safety tools like block and report, or to cut contact with anyone who makes you feel unsafe.



Your play personality is cautious.

You're aware of some of the dangerous things that can happen online and are quick to take action to protect yourself. You'd rather be safe than sorry and that helps you make decisions.

Being cautious is an important skill to keep you safe online, but it can also be tiring. Remember that a strong support system and people you can talk to is important to help look after your wellbeing too.



Your play personality is social.

You love how the internet can help you make friends and build communities. You spend most of your time chatting and playing with others and you work together with your friends to keep each other safe.

It's great that the internet can help us socialise but remember that not everyone online has the same motives. A conversation can be the perfect cover for a scam or to get you to give up personal information, so be alert to warning signs that something might not be right.



Your play personality is curious.

You love learning new things and exploring different apps and games online. You're always looking to discover the best features or be the first of your friends to try something out.

Being curious is a great way to discover new things online, but take care as clicking on links or visiting unfamiliar sites could be risky. Sometimes it's safest to take a moment or ask an adult to help you make a good decision.



Whatever play personality you got, there's always more you can do to be aware of online scams. We spoke to the Childnet Youth Advisory Board, a group of young people aged 13 to 17 years old, about their tips to help other young people stay safe online.

Advice on spotting scams online

"Check to see the sender of messages and emails you have received. Legit emails will come from official email addresses and, on some games and apps, official accounts will be verified. You can also search the name of the person to check."

"Do not move communication with someone online from a game to a different platform like a messaging app or social media, and be wary of people asking for this."

"Remember that if something online seems too good to be true then it probably isn't true!"

Advice on what to do if you see an online scam

"It's definitely helpful to get advice from a trusted adult. Even if they don't know much about the app or game you're on, it means you're not on your own."

"Although there's sometimes a lack of faith in online reporting, it's important to report it regardless. It can build a better picture of different scams for the companies you report to, and for the police."

"Always remember to take screenshots of messages and photos as evidence."

Advice on if you've been scammed

"Although it might be a difficult or worrying conversation to have, it is important that you talk to a trusted adult about what has happened, as they will be able to help you and stop the situation getting worse."

"Remember that it is not your fault. Unfortunately, there are bad people out there, and you have been the victim of a crime. You are not silly, and you have not done something wrong."