

# Fake Profile Checklist

Romance Scams


**Fake profiles differ from real profiles in several ways. This checklist helps you identify the characteristics of **FAKE** Male Profiles.**

### ***Fake* Male Profiles**

Fake male profiles have some prominent features, including:

- ☐ Authority figure. A profile picture that looks powerful and showcases social status
- ☐ Wealthy . Pictures of luxurious lifestyles, posing in front of yachts or sports cars, etc.
- ☐ Typically holds a job that requires a lot of education while holding power, such as a businessman, manager, or architect. Job that requires lots of travel or time out of the country.
- ☐ The profile generally shows he is a widower and a father
- ☐ The bio may use adjectives like “loyal, respectful, humorous, religious,” to seem like an ideal match
- ☐ Their hobbies could include activities commonly perceived as masculine, such as “fitness” or “swimming.” But also mentioning hobbies such as “cooking” and “romantic dancing” helps male scammers try to appeal to women.
- ☐ Leave parts of their profiles blank, claiming they forgot to fill them in or didn’t have time
- ☐ Empty social networks: few comments, likes or shares
- ☐ No connection to other social media accounts

### Example: *Fake* Male Profiles





**Richard Harrison**


15 Friends    0 Mutual Friends    12 Posts


[Add Friend](#)   [Follow](#)   [Message](#)   [More](#)

Greetings! I'm Richard, a seasoned architect with a heart full of stories and a love for beautiful design. After creating a wonderful family and life with my late wife, I now find joy in sharing my experiences and embracing life's simple pleasures.

 Works at Retired Architect, Founder of Harrison Designs

 Lives in Manhattan, New York

 From San Francisco, California

 Linked Accounts

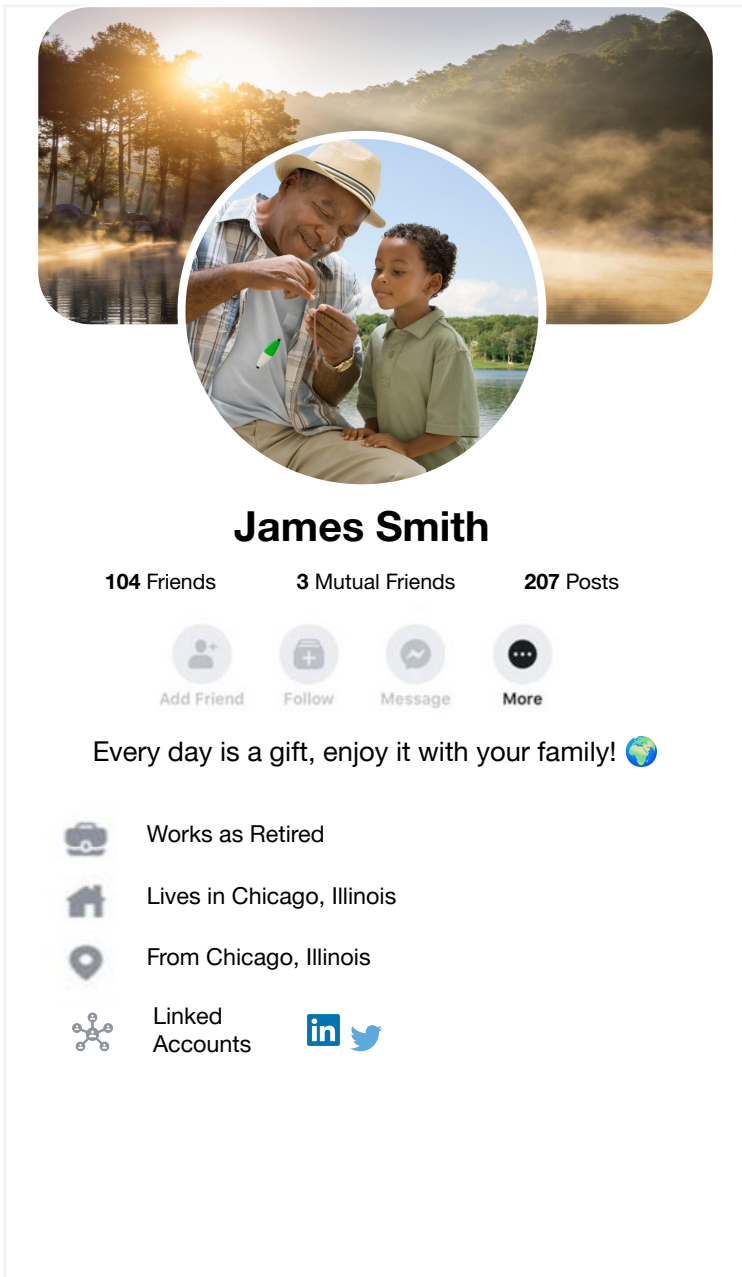
This Fake male profile shows:

- ❑ this profile picture that looks powerful and showcases social status
- ❑ an unreasonable number of friends, no mutual friends with you
- ❑ very few posts
- ❑ long bio that describes his education and wealth as an architect
- ❑ long bio that includes other unnecessary details, such as his late wife.
- ❑ showing he owns his business
- ❑ no associated social media accounts

**Please note: a fake profile doesn't necessarily have to show all of the characteristics list on the last page.**

We've seen characteristics of Fake male profiles. Now, let's explore the traits of **REAL** male profiles.

### Real Male Profiles



A real male profile usually exhibits the following details:

- ☐ uses a nice photo of himself and his grandson and contains a shorter bio
- ☐ has a reasonable number of friends and posts
- ☐ have mutual friends with you
- ☐ displays authentic information about his working status and living location
- ☐ profile picture doesn't emphasize wealth or power
- ☐ profile picture doesn't emphasize his looks
- ☐ linking social media accounts

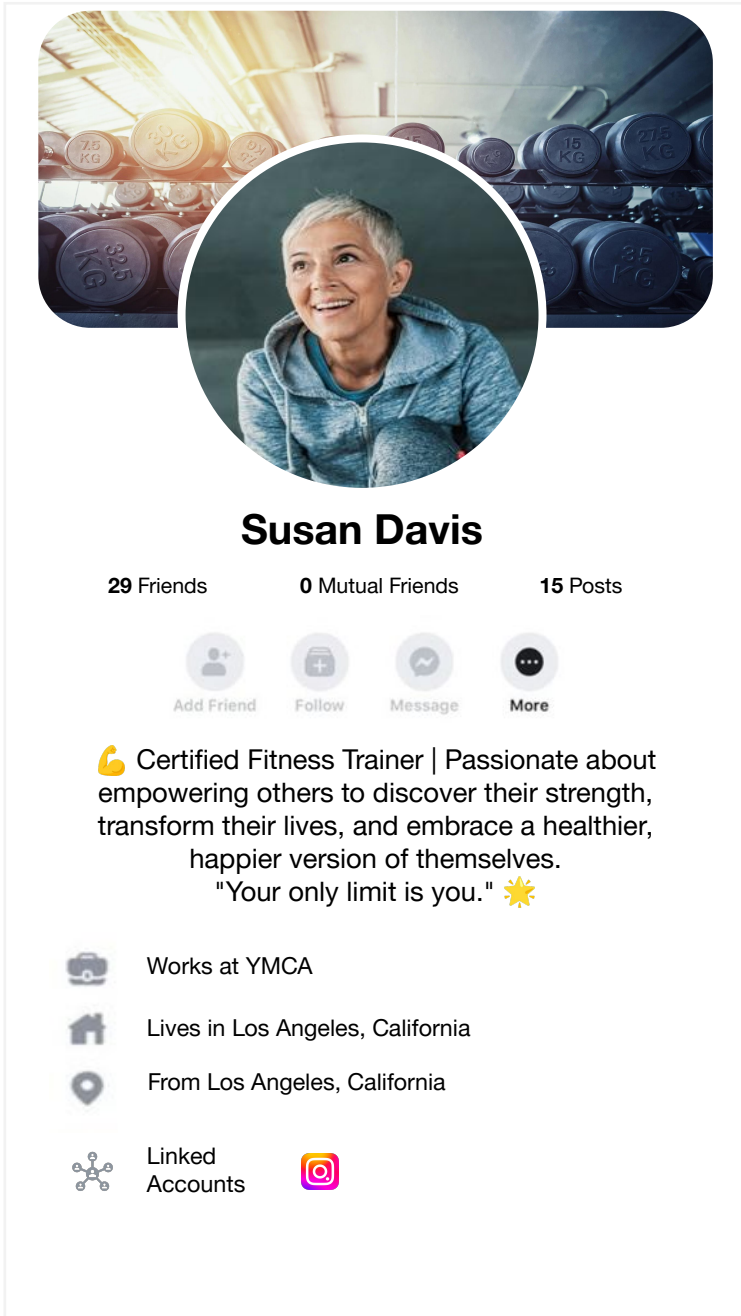
**Fake profiles differ from real profiles in several ways. This checklist helps you identify the characteristics of **FAKE** Female Profiles.**

### ***Fake* Female Profiles**

Fake female profiles have some prominent features, including:

- ☐ Conventionally attractive
- ☐ Typically describe themselves as financially independent, holding a job that involves providing care and human contact, such as a student, nurse, or teacher/teaching assistant
- ☐ Not wealthy
- ☐ No previous significant romantic relationship
- ☐ No kids
- ☐ Their bio may use adjectives like “loyal, respectful, humorous, religious,” to seem like an ideal match
- ☐ Their hobbies could include music or reading, and will also try to appeal to men by mentioning fitness or sports
- ☐ Leave parts of their profiles blank, claiming they forgot to fill them in or didn’t have time
- ☐ Empty social networks: few comments, likes or shares
- ☐ No connection to other social media accounts

### Example: *Fake* Female Profiles



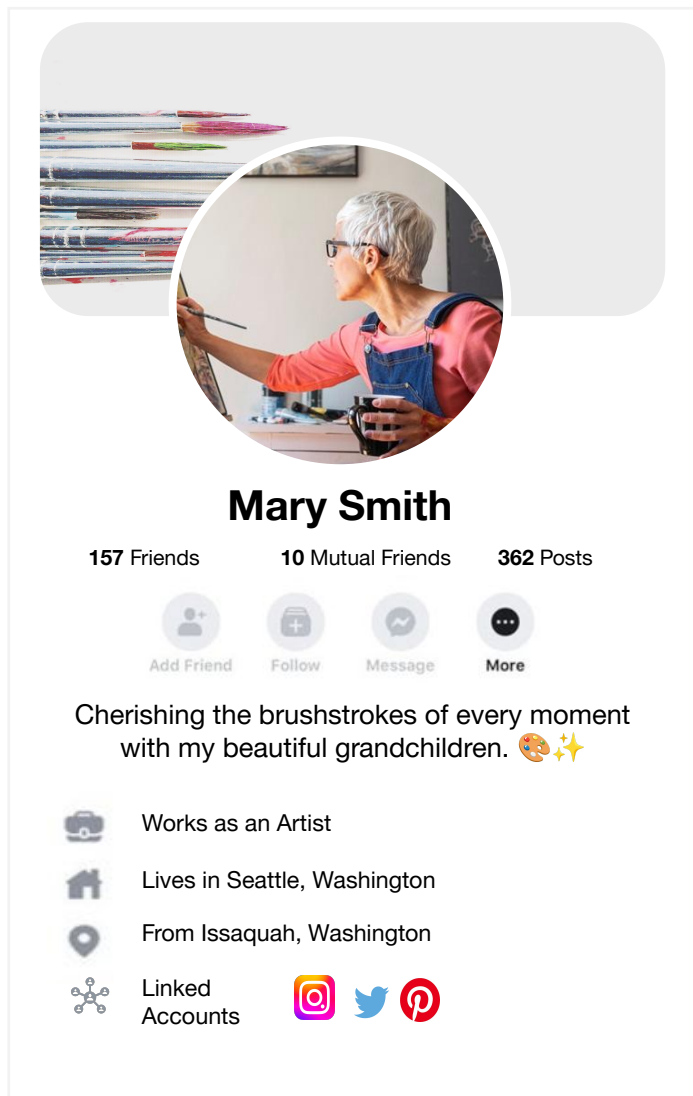
Some fake female profiles may seem unconventional,

- ☐ attractive profile photo
- ☐ financially independent as a fitness trainer, but not wealthy
- ☐ no mention of past relationships
- ☐ no mention of kids
- ☐ few posts, few friends
- ☐ only one linked account

**Please note: This example also shows that not all listed characteristics must be present in a fake profile. Some of these characteristics may also apply to real profiles. For example, this profile includes information about the scammer's job status and location.**

We've seen characteristics of Fake male profiles. Now, let's explore the traits of **REAL** Female profiles.

### Real Female Profiles



A real male profile usually exhibits the following details:

- ☐ uses a nice photo of herself and contains a shorter bio
- ☐ has a reasonable number of friends and posts
- ☐ might have mutual friends with you
- ☐ displays authentic information about their working status and living location
- ☐ profile picture doesn't emphasize her looks
- ☐ mentions family and grandchildren in their bio

This document lists characteristics of fake profiles to help you spot potential romance scammers. It's important to note that while these characteristics can be indicators, a fake profile doesn't necessarily have to exhibit all of them. Conversely, if none of these characteristics are present, it still does not guarantee that a profile is real.

In the Romance Scam module, we introduce the techniques that romance scammers use, as well as the warning signs. If you haven't noticed any red flags in the profile, please remain.