

Common Bitcoin & Crypto SCAMS (And How to Avoid Them)

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Overview

Unfortunately, with all new technology comes those that will take advantage of it in a negative way. The crypto world has brought us some amazing new technology and positive use cases. But it has also brought out those thieves and scammers that will take advantage of others for their own gain. Let's discuss some of the most common crypto scams and how to avoid falling victim to them.

The Three Most Common Scams

The Crypto "Doubling" Scam

The crypto "doubling" or crypto giveaway scam has become ubiquitous, and recently took center stage with a hack targeting major celebrities on Twitter. The crypto doubling scam is simple but insidious! These fraudulent giveaways will use YouTube or Twitter to pose as a popular figure in the crypto space, and say that due to some event they are doing a generous airdrop of Bitcoin or another currency.

The scam asks you to send BTC to an address, and claims that they will then send double that amount back to you. How generous? Well, no. Crypto transactions are *irreversible by design*. So once they receive your Bitcoin, they will simply take it and run. There's nothing you can do to get it back.

The image shows a YouTube video player interface. The video thumbnail features two men sitting in white armchairs on a stage. The man on the left is wearing a grey suit, and the man on the right is wearing a brown jacket. The text 'Coin Summit' is visible in the bottom right corner of the thumbnail. Below the thumbnail, the video title is 'CHAMATH PALIHAPITIYA 5,000 BTC GIVEAWAY'. Below the title is an orange button that says 'More info on chamath-btc.org'. Below that is the year '2020'. To the right of the title, there is a QR code and a 'LIVE' badge. Below the QR code, the text says 'Use the QR Code or BTC Address to join:' followed by a Bitcoin address: '1ZHIY6fQFiMgGyAfFBKdD324LUr5bf8ss'. Below the address, it says 'To participate, you just need to send 0.1 BTC to 20 BTC to the contribution address and we will immediately send you back 0.2 BTC to 40 BTC to the address you sent it from.' Below this, there is a list of rewards: 'If you send 0.1+ BTC, you will receive 0.2+ BTC back', 'If you send 0.5+ BTC, you will receive 1+ BTC back', 'If you send 2.5+ BTC, you will receive 5+ BTC back', 'If you send 5+ BTC, you will receive 10+ BTC back', 'If you send 10+ BTC, you will receive 20+ BTC back', and 'If you send 20 BTC, you will receive 40 BTC back'. Below the list is a red button that says 'You can only participate once.' and the Bitcoin logo. At the bottom of the video player, it says 'Watch NBC News NOW Live - Chamath Palihapitiya Live' and '54,752 watching now • Started streaming 58 minutes ago'. Below that are icons for likes (2.3K), comments (48), share, save, and a menu icon.

CHAMATH PALIHAPITIYA
5,000 BTC GIVEAWAY

More info on chamath-btc.org

2020

Watch NBC News NOW Live - Chamath Palihapitiya Live
54,752 watching now • Started streaming 58 minutes ago

2.3K 48 SHARE SAVE ...

A Fake Bitcoin Giveaway Scam

Avoiding this scam is simple. NEVER, EVER, EVER send someone crypto with the promise of receiving more back. No one is going to do this. If someone truly wants to give you crypto for free, all they will need is your public address. You never need to send crypto for someone to "verify" your address or anything of that nature. Run away, and keep your precious Bitcoin.

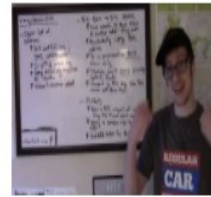
The Crypto "Recovery" Scam

In a previous tutorial, I went more in depth on this particular type of common scam I see on YouTube. In these, the scammers use hundreds of fake YouTube accounts to comment on videos and claim that some "genius hacker" helped them recovery lost coins or generate more for free.



Travis Wolf commented: "You don't have to worry if you mistakenly sent your coin to a wrong wallet because maxime_tools on !g can help you get it back."

18 hours ago



Crypto recovery scammer

These frauds will often claim the ability to recover or generate coins in situations where it is technically impossible to do so, which is a dead giveaway. What they really want is your credentials and 2 factor auth codes for exchange accounts, or maybe even your seed phrase.

NEVER give out passwords, 2FA codes, or your seed phrase to someone you don't know. A legitimate friend may need a seed phrase to help you recover lost coins in some cases, but in MOST cases someone asking for this information is trying to steal from you!

Investment Scams

The final type of scam is even older than crypto, but takes advantage of the drastic volatility and price jumps of the crypto space. This is the simple investment/ponzi scheme. I often get contacted on LinkedIn by thieves claiming they can generate massive, guaranteed returns through crypto trading.

Binary option is an online forex trading (stocks, currencies and gold), it's one of the highest paid investment treasury in the world. Here you can make twice your investment, no experience needed. Let's say I start trading on binary option with \$3000 I'm sure to get a profit of \$7500 in a week

If you're interested you can kindly drop your number or email address so I can forward you more information about it

Thanks

An Investment Scammer Message

Remember that investment always carries risk, and anyone claiming guaranteed returns is a scammer. As well, anyone claiming too-good-to-be-true returns is someone to be avoided!! Don't give anyone money as an investment seed; they will simply take it and run.

Crypto Scams Suck! Don't Fall for Them

Crypto scammers take advantage of an amazing technology to steal from others. Thankfully with some analysis, these scams can be spotted and avoided. Don't let these thieves get their reward, and spread the word to help keep the space safe for newcomers!