**ANONYMOUS** 



# HOW TO SPOT A FAKE INESTMENT

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# **How to Know a Fake Investment**

So you own a business, and you are looking for additional ways to earn money by investing, right? But are you able to spot a fake investment to avoid getting scammed? So a friend comes up and shows you a specific investment that has an ROI(Return of Investment) of over 25%, and you feel all good and ready to dump all your cash into the investment to earn millions in a swoop.

Just before you decide to invest a lot into the investment scheme, ask yourself if they are real or not.

Most of these scammers are bringing up new scam formats to dupe people of their money. So have in mind that not every investment opportunity you see online is legit or real.

I guess your only chance is going online and asking random people to help you check if the investment is legit or a scam. But just like you, others, too, have limited knowledge.

So before you decide to invest in any money-making scheme, make sure you read this and double-check again.

Just like MMM, Twinkas, Ultimate cycle, they all had a lot in common – let's continue reading to find out the initial signs that made them scam investments.

# **How to Spot a Fake Investment in this Century**



### **Scam Alert**

Since there are no individual schools for studying the tactics of scammers, I'm making you one. Like I stated earlier, I will carefully and conversationally show you how to spot a fake investment with ease. If you do love to see people, start sharing even before reading so that someone might be saved. We all can be heroes!

Worry no more, the ideas below are what you need to know whether that venture is genuine or fake.

### **Quick Ridiculous Return on Investment**

I would have titled this section as 'giving a dime for a bunch' but nope. Noticed my use of 'Quick'? I'm using it because I know we can earn heavy with just small amounts. Now, that venture or investment that makes you ponder night and day isn't real; it promises quick riches. If such were the case, it would instead be called 'out-vestment.' Do you get the idea?

An authentic investment will never come easy. If it's not the type backed by the government, it usually poses high risks. Your turn now, think! Why would something juicy approach you and demand very little for you to own it? This often is a case in scam investments because they arrive with beauty and ask for little. For them to come significant and demand, small is a common feature of scams with the zeal to succeed. How is this? When little is stolen continuously from you, scammers add it to those from others and cart with millions. What hurts most is when these scams take plenty from one individual! In this century? No! This shouldn't be the case anymore.

If you know no other way of how to spot a fake investment, don't fail to see this one.

# Little or No Risk Investments

For every investment, there is a risk attached. This risk would always be low, moderate, or high. In the case of a scam investment, the scammers often pronounce a little or no risk. This is a technique employed by scammers to lure innocent individuals into losing their money. Well, it's undeniable that we, myself inclusive, do love what comes easy.

An investor must indeed be willing to take the risk. But then, what makes you a sound investor is your eye for what you're signing up for. On this note, you're supposed to find out why such as investment is presenting you with a no-risk offer. Where is it getting the money from? Why does it will give out the dough with very little or no risk accompanying the offer?

One of the investments that come to mind on this note is a Ponzi scheme. Ponzi comes with almost zero risks. It even files high-interest rates, which is said would be paid in a few days. If you dare and spare some seconds to reason, it'll be apparent that some scams are just visible. The problem is only humans allowing themselves to be fooled by greed.

### **Forced Reviews**

Forced reviews is another obvious way to spot a fake investment scheme.

Let me explain to you what a "Forced Review" means.

Did you notice that MMM was paying people for doing a video claiming that the platform is real and pay fast? That is what I mean by forced reviews.

Most scam investment platforms need popularity, and the only way to get it is to "induce" their users to spread the news.

So when next you want to invest in a platform because you noticed that many people are talking about it, take a step back. They are most likely talking about it because they were actually "induced" to do so; it was a natural action.

On a lighter note, "have you seen anyone do a video about Fixed Deposit or Treasury Bills?"

Because they don't need anyone to promote investment, it is real and pays, so you can decide to invest or not.

# **Question the Source**

The most common way to know how to spot a fake investment is to question its source. Although many do claim that they ask sources but still get scammed, it's all about how it's done.

Do you question in a way that forces fear to run down a scammer's spine?



### Verify your source

# Ask for the correct paperwork

Hey, if you do not advance to this level, you'll never find out from questioning. There is something about questioning, and I know that only a few can question. For instance, some persons ask in a way that reverses a question to them. And this isn't exceptionally good if you intend investing your resources in something you don't own.

On the other hand, some question in a manner that shuts the recipient. It is in this sort of way that you should examine the thing you want to invest in. You are worried because you know not how to go about with such a way of questioning? Why worry when I'm here! I mean, check on me and I'll guide you on this.

### **No Genuine Reviews**

So you want to invest, then you decide to go online and do research. If you don't see credible sources telling you genuine things about that investment, please back off!

I am not talking about random blogs or sponsored reviews; I am talking about real information sites like Business Day, Dailytrust, Sun, Legit.ng, Nairaland, Nairametrics. These are platforms where you get real information regarding any investment you wish to make.

Most scam investments will pay bloggers and writers to promote them online, but you have to check out the source of information. Ask yourself the following questions;

- How genuine are the reviews?
- Is the reviewer writing to make you register under him?
- Will they get paid for making you register?
- Is there an affiliate link for you to click?

If yes, then you need to be skeptical about that investment – because it will most likely be a scam. If you need investments with genuine reviews that are trusted, see the best investments in Nigeria currently with monthly returns.

### **Trust Your Instincts**

If you have checked all the points, I listed and still skeptical about investing in that platform, please don't invest. This is because you will most likely lose your money.

You have to trust your guts and feelings. If the investment is too good to be true, then you should not go ahead with it.

### **Conclusion**

I have provided you with the basic understanding you need to know how to spot a fake investment. If only you follow this up, it will cost you a short time to spot fraudulent scam investments. Since the scammers' knowledge depth is advancing, yours can't lay low. If you let it lie low, it'll cost you, and that

won't end quite well. Now majority of the examples I gave here are scams that were used in Nigeria by Nigerians and foreign body's, but that doesn't mean that the idea and concept can't be used by someone in your country, so its best to be aware and prepared.

# **Network Marketing Scams: How to Identify and Avoid Multilevel Scam Schemes**

This article serves as a guide for identifying the various network marketing scams and how to avoid or evade them. Before signing up for a network marketing offer, specific considerations must be put in place. One of such is the improvement of your detective skill level. This is necessary because you may lack sufficient skills for detecting the trueness of multilevel network marketing.

Network marketing is currently being used as one of the illegal ways to make quick bucks by fraudsters parading themselves as CEOs of companies.

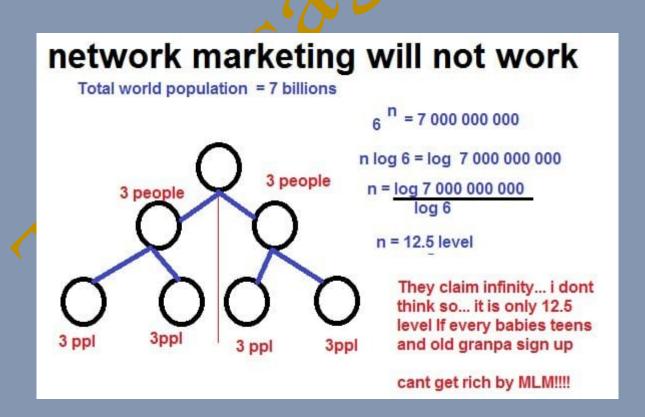
From the look of things, multilevel marketing characterizes as pyramid schemes. This results from its hierarchical nature, which presents it as some illegal venture. And of course, a pyramid scheme is undeniably considered illegal due to its level by level monetizing structure. Though it is stacked with disadvantages, it's very well undeniably profiting for any person involved. And it is reportedly stated that a higher number of women are involved in multilevel marketing than men.

In as much as it'll be lovely to trade in multilevel marketing, a profound loss would hurt. Moreover, not every multilevel marketing is a scam. On this note, what would help ascertain the feasibility of such a venture is this guide, if well followed. In essence, attentiveness is the sole assistant for getting the proper knowledge for identifying the network marketing scams.

Note: This MLM scams aren't like the other scams I've talked about so far, it is legal and approved and a lot of people are into them knowingly. This article just helps you really understand how MLM schemes work and why you can't get rich through it.

# **About Multilevel Marketing (MLM)**

The fears of scam aside, network marketing is ideal for significant earnings. It provides income flexibility and liberates participants in their profits. Most are in for it, and many more plan to get in day by day. The problem, however, is the difficulty to know which is legit and which isn't. Multilevel network marketing involves a simple concept of referral.



Why you can't make money with MLM schemes

This, in turn, saves a company the cost of placing high salaried personnel on payrolls for selling its product. Moreover, the main idea of multilevel marketing is the realization/derivation of high profits from a non-paid but compensated (company's choice) workforce. This can only be achieved in a pyramidal form, which involves the process of referrals.

# What Makes Multilevel Marketing a Pyramid Scheme

Multilevel marketing can't wholly be some network marketing scams as claimed. Lots of persons take this as mediums of earnings, but for its pyramidal system, it's regarded so. Although pyramid schemes are considered scams, it will not be right to conclude that multilevel marketing is network marketing scams. But then, let's highlight what makes it seem like some marketing sort of scam.

The first idea is, of course, the monetary investment. Most multilevel marketing companies require financial investments from its marketers. This would often come significant or minor, and it is a core characteristic of pyramid schemes. This makes the concept of network marketing, a very tricky one to venture into.

Furthermore, multilevel marketing yields money through referrals. This is a process of recruitment whereby new persons are being introduced to the company's product. The members of that company do this mostly through physical presence with convincing talks. Whatever is said is course what has been provided by the company.

The idea of making money here is simple; the unsalaried sales personnel pays the company for the product and then receive a commission for referrals.

The income would thus be determined by the number of new persons referred to the company. The concept of reference is necessarily a part of

multilevel marketing, which contributes to its pyramidal system. However, a genuine multilevel company emphasizes on its product sales rather than referrals

### **How to Identify Multilevel Network Marketing Scams**

As a way of proffering solutions to the problems of identifying network marketing scams, here are the possible warning signals.

#### 1. Inflated Investment Rate

It's very much the norm to lose money for investments, but not when the rates are high. If the rate is incredibly high, it's a sign indicating the potential danger. Usually, this warning signal indicates that such a company would cease to exist the moment it reaches its target rate. As an investor, the company would, of course, raise convincing reasons as to why the amount is worth it.

But then, the cost of a startup being high should serve as a hint to rethink. It is on grounds such as this that it becomes vital to locate the business bureau and conduct a study. On the course of the findings, the history of such a company will reflect past rates.

# 2. Emphasis on Referrals for Profit

First, focus on referrals is a core feature of pyramid schemes. If that company presses on referrals, there is a 'comma' waiting along the tracks. This instance indicates that the company is not interested in productivity but the audience. And as you know, the more the audience, the better, more comfortable, and more the profit.

When a company shows little or no interest in products, then there is too short or no product in place. You'll never be told this, and it's almost impossible to find out since the company situates on concealment practices. Moreover, too many hints on referrals is a company's excess concern for its growth rather than its unsalaried workforce. When your network marketing is more focused on referrals than actual products, then you must learn how to convince someone to part with their money and give them to you for the sake of network marketing.

### 3. Commission for Recruitment

Network marketing scams do feature the remission of commission for recruitment. Such commissions would be little and only grow by referrals made. This is more like the subject above stating how much a company depends on audience-building rather than productivity. The commissions paid are often little, and salespersons may use it as leverages. Sadly, there is no guarantee of good returns without perfect dedication and determination.

But then, this would only be the case if the network marketing company is not a scam. However, legit multilevel marketing does offer commissions to. But the difference is that there are a focus and lots of interest in productivity other than referrals for commission. Now, the legitimacy of such ventures, as stated, relies on the product, the quality, and the company's interest in the product.

## 4. No Inventory Buyback by Company

To identify network marketing scams, inventory buyback is a characteristic to observe. There are times when products would remain and require a resell to the company. At such moments, an investor is unable to clear out product and wills to clear them for newer stocks. And if the company is authentic, a buyback of such an item or product will be initiated.

A legit company repurchases unsold items from its salesmen, but a non-legit/scam company will not. Finding this out will be based on your ability to ask questions and figure out things. For instance, if such a company raises no statement concerning buybacks, it's most definitely fake.

Another way to find this out is to assess the company's history in any office of the bureau. Google and Bing would make good options to use in searching more concerning buyback relevancy in such an establishment. The reason is that buying back from investors will be a loss to such a company. Not only that, the buyback will as well slow down the process of scamming investors successfully.

### 5. Product Availability

Scam ventures often lie about the availability of products and even product quality. This is mostly the case in the provision of great details for substandard products, which results in low sales and low profitability. To know how genuinely genuine a company is, enquire for their products and, if possible, get one for personal examination. While the company may not provide a sincere description of the product, it is an attempt to cover up falsifications.

A company provides very little product that doesn't match the hype or description is fake. You need not wait any longer to ascertain what the truth is. Get up from that sit and never go back there or be manipulated into thinking it's real.

# 6. The pressure to Purchase High-Cost Products

The network marketing scams would often mount pressure. For instance, there would be the employment of phrases like "limited time" to force in people. On the course of it, the product prices are inflated, leaving buyers with

no options than to obtain the item. While it is smart to get products during the first dates, it isn't intelligent where the establishment isn't authentic.

Moreover, it is very conventional for a company to present products cheaper at first phase rather than high. So, for it to be otherwise is a sign that such a company is not what it is said to be. Do rethink, go online on forums, and search more on such company before signup.

### 7. High-Cost Training

The idea of multilevel marketing on like other marketing strategies is to make a profit, no doubt about that. But it becomes a problem when there are necessary additional features like training being done for high costs. Do not rush to participate, no matter the promises. Besides, a company can't predict its future but instead works for it.

Above all, the most important and reasonable thing to do is questioning. These ventures may often appear too beautiful to miss out, but raising multiple questions is no risk to attempt. No matter how intimidating the sources might seem, make inquiries. On regular grounds, it's necessary to check on the business bureau for the company name if it's there, demand for the company's business history and scrutinizes it if possible.

The network marketing scams whose presence humanity suffers are built on profiteering grounds by scammers. This suggests that the way you intend to make money is the same way the source wants to be productive. The defining but hurtful difference is that the source (scammer) attempts to make money from your loss.

In the end, going through this article means a lesser chance of being victimized. Also, applying inbuilt wisdom would serve as a boost. Don't be the sad story, but be instead, a benefactor from authentic multilevel marketing.

Note also that success depends/results from your scrutiny and observation of a company or venture.

Now I'm not here to drag any company, I only serve as an eye opener. These companies are all legal. I have outlined everything that one needs to know and have to prepare for before venturing into these schemes and only said my honest opinions.

# **Popular Network Marketing Companies**

From the companies I have tried in the past, these are the network marketing companies I can know;

- Oriflame
- Herbalife
- Vorverk
- Tupperware
- GNLD
- Belcorp
- ACN
- Mistine
- Partylite
- Pampered Chef
- Forever Green
- Gano XL
- Life Plus

So before you decide to invest in any network marketing scheme, please read this post and then make your decision. Stick around for more posts and don't forget to subscribe for more exciting articles.

