



CRAIGLIST SCAM

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Craigslist Scam Format

From my research, these are the common Craigslist scams formats yahoo boys use to start craigslist work. Most of them are updated, so it is still fresh.

The introduction of the internet has provided several ways to buy and sell products and services online; and this includes Amazon, Alibaba, GoBuy, China brands, and many other eCommerce platforms. For yahoo boys this is a good place for them to use these formats.

Over the years, Craigslist has proved to be a fantastic sales platform that stands distinct from others. It's a useful resource for selling household products, fashion wears, auto products as well as electronic gadgets. It's also a veritable avenue to find different types of services and as well as meeting people.

Despite the fantastic services it offers, if you transact with people you are not seeing physically, you might get scammed.

How Spot a Scam on Craiglist?

Due to the style and configuration of the craigslist platform, scam can most times be difficult to notice. Whether they are scams that involve fake products, fraudulent financial services, or fake identity, criminals are increasingly being creative in scamming people of their hard-earned money.

If you don't know how to use the platform, here is how to buy and sell on craigslist. It will help you know how to get started.

There are other several scams that take place on Craigslist such as apartment rental scams, ticket scams, and car scams. Often times, most of these scams take the same pattern you experience on Alibaba and other

eCommerce platforms. For example, whenever you post an item for sale, you might get a response from someone trying to scam you.

Once an offer is too good to be true, be rest assured that it isn't good at all. But for the sake of helping you to avoid falling victim to any of these craigslist scams, I will list out the common craigslist scam you should watch out for while visiting the platform.

For the purpose of this topical discourse, here are nine (9) popular Craigslist scams that often take place on the internet space.

9 Common Craigslist Scams To Watchout For When Using the Platform

1). Scam Email from PayPal

Most criminals use PayPal to both send and receive money via Craigslist. This method often comes through placing ads compelling people to run transactions on the site. Another way this works is that they send a fake email confirmation containing a certain payment made.

The danger is that this fake PayPal email could have vague spellings of your name or not addressing you with your complete name, saying that your funds have been withheld till you perform a certain action like using a provided link to track orders. Immediately you click on the attached link, you might lose your money, so be sure to check the spelling of words on emails or links as the human mind seems not to notice that a letter has been omitted or 2 letters have been switched or a letter has been doubled in the spelling of a common word that we all tend to see daily and are used to seeing, for example; Craighlist, paypl, Intsagram, twiiter, etc. Some of you might have already read those words as what it looks like and not what it is, so be sure to carefully read

the words in an email or a link, especially links that will end up asking you to give up confidential information.

2). Fake Money Orders

Anytime a buyer or seller on Craigslist decides to pay you through wire transfer or money order, just consider that as a serious waving red flag.

Scammers have long created incredible money orders pretending to be from some globally recognized money transfer organizations. This type of Craigslist scam often comes in a well-packaged manner to lure you into sending your goods to a certain buyer before the fake money order clears. The truth is that people who often receive orders via Craigslist do fall for this scam. The safest way is to make sure money orders are cleared before sending goods bought by a customer.

3). Partial Payment

Each time a seller requests for partial payment before delivering a particular product, watch out for a scam. In most cases, these con people ensure you pay them but never deliver the product you paid for. The worst is that the said product is never in existence.

Craigslist scam is widely known to be a recurring decimal that people rather rely on other platforms like Etsy, eBay, Amazon, and other online stores. This is because these stores have more guarantees to protect people in the time of the fraud. Craigslist does not guarantee any protection.

4). Non-Local Ads

This clearly explains that a person who posted an ad is not in your local area. Whenever this happens, simply know that it's not a good idea. This is so because these posters of non-local ads cannot meet up with your expectations and would request that you transfer money through a provided online channel. Most scammers often use this method.

A familiar example of this fake ad can come from on-duty soldiers in Syria or other war-torn areas who really need help regarding online transactions. Non -local ads are a big scam.

5). Fake Cancelled Ticket

Ticket scams are another popular Craigslist scams to watch out for. While it may cost you extra money to buy tickets very cheap and selling them at a very high rate, please beware because you could completely lose your money by buying fake or cancelled ticket.

It is no longer news that some fraudulent people on Craigslist are now devising means to fake tickets that look pretty genuine to several auspicious events such as sports games, concerts, and parties. It is also observed that these criminals have replicated watermarks and holograms on tickets for events or concerts, including flight tickets.

Additionally, con people on Craigslist are always in the habit of listing tickets that have been canceled or even fake and ensuring that you pay through any inconvenient means possible.

6). Overpayment Scam

This type of Craigslist scam often occurs in transactions involving used cars and other products. The scammer just pretends to be a normal buyer from outside your location; either outside your region or outside your country.

How it happens;

They bargain to purchase your product from Craigslist but mistakenly overpay for the said product.

You will receive a fake check from the yahoo boy and he tells you that he wants to give some of the money to charity. He will then beg the seller to cash the money for him, keep a part of the money as payment, and send the others to his brother in Atlanta (a picker).

The seller then decides to refund the excess money in the payment. Meanwhile, they or a friend would have picked the product.

In just a few days, the seller will discover that the money order was a scam. Now, the seller has both lost the excess money and his product to a smart con star, due to his decency. To avoid this, hold onto any excess payments for some days(2 to 3 days) before paying to the charity or sending it to the person “in Atlanta”.

7). Fake Rentals

This type of scam involves transactions centered on apartment rentals. How it works is that the scammer will post pictures of an apartment that was actually stolen somewhere on the internet.

They purposely make the price very affordable so it looks like a fantastic deal for anyone interested. However, when a renter indicates interest, the

scammer begins to make flimsy excuses why renter cannot have access to the apartment yet.

This strategy may be like there are other renters checking the apartment or that the scammer is out of town.

Nevertheless, with the eagerness of the prospective renter to see the apartment, the scammer will mandate him to make at least a deposit payment, including an advance for the first month. Immediately this is done, the scammer disappears with the money.

8). Fake Website

On Craigslist, there are several links that will redirect you to fake listing platforms. It could be fake Craigslist sites or an imitation version of other money transfer platforms. Scammers can possibly create a site with an alternative ending part; something quite different from the original site.

It is unfortunate that most buyers and sellers on Craigslist don't accurately observe some misspellings, but after reading all this, you should know what to do from now on.

9). Foreign Job Listings

If you see a foreign company promising to pay you just for collecting money on their behalf from customers in the US, this indeed is a big scam designed to retrieve your bank details and other sensitive personal information.

Whenever you're checking out job posts on Craigslist, it is ideal you deeply research the company to ensure it is an honest one.

Try to find out if the company is headquartered in the US and if the advertised job is also posted on their website or career page. Also go further to find out about their HR department and if they truly advertised for a vacancy.

Conclusion

The fact is, doing business on Craigslist is not easy. Most people have been heavily scammed in the process of transactions and nothing much is done to curtail this sham. It is really awful that this is happening at the time when the internet is offering a whole lot of ease in doing things.

Well, I have listed the various common scams that often happen on Craigslist. It now lies with on the reader of this piece to carefully note them so as not to fall prey.