

Spoil your grandkids, not scammers!

Beware of scammers pretending to be your grandchild, relative, or friend.

Often they claim to be in trouble—usually in jail or stranded in a foreign country, and ask you to send money.

They may ask you to send cash by mail or buy gift cards. They often beg you keep it a secret and act fast before you start to question.

Is it really your loved one or an imposter?

- Don't panic! Take a deep breath and get the facts.
- Don't send money unless you're sure it's the real person who contacted you. Hang up and call your grandchild or friend's phone number to see if the story checks out. You could also call a different friend or relative.
- Is the person asking for gift cards? If someone is really in need, gift cards won't help.

Report grandparent scams to the Federal Trade Commission at [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint) or by calling **1-877-FTC-HELP**.

