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Seven signs an AI message may be a scam

ARTIFICIAL intelligence has made it easier than ever to create convincing emails, text messages and social media posts. While AI can be a useful tool, scammers are also using it to produce fraud attempts that look more professional and believable than ever before.

The good news is that many AI-powered scams still share the same warning signs.

1. A sense of urgency

Scammers often try to create panic by claiming your bank account has been compromised, a parcel cannot be delivered or a loved one is in trouble. The aim is to pressure you into acting without thinking.

2. Requests for money or personal information

Be cautious if you are asked to provide banking details, passwords, verification codes or immediate payments. Legitimate organisations rarely request such information through text messages or social media.

3. Unusual behaviour

If a message from a friend, colleague or family member seems out of character, trust your instincts. AI can mimic writing styles, but it may not accurately capture how a person normally communicates.

4. Emotional manipulation

Many scams rely on strong emotions such as fear, excitement or sympathy. Messages claiming you have won a prize, inherited money or need to help someone urgently should be treated with caution.

5. Suspicious links

Always check links before clicking. AI-generated phishing messages often direct users to fake websites designed to steal personal information.

6. Offers that sound too good to be true

Promises of guaranteed investment returns, luxury prizes or easy money are classic warning signs. AI may make these offers appear more polished, but the

underlying scam remains the same.

7. Requests for secrecy

Be wary if someone asks you not to tell family members or friends about a financial transaction or urgent request. Scammers often try to isolate their victims to avoid detection.

When it comes to online safety, a few minutes of caution can save you from becoming the next victim of a costly scam.

