



Protect Yourself from the Top 10 Scams that Target Women over 50

With your guide, Suecurity

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The Scams are Real

And so is Your Power to Stop Them!

Online scammers are getting smarter, and more aggressive. In 2024, Americans lost \$12.5 Billion to fraud, according to the Federal Trade Commission. Even more alarming, the FBI found that **victims over the age of 60** reported average losses of **\$83,000**.

If you are a woman over 50, you're not just a potential target, you are a **PRIORITY** for online criminals. And knowledge is protection.

In the next few pages, you'll uncover the **10 most common online scams** aimed at women like you, and learn how to avoid them with confidence!

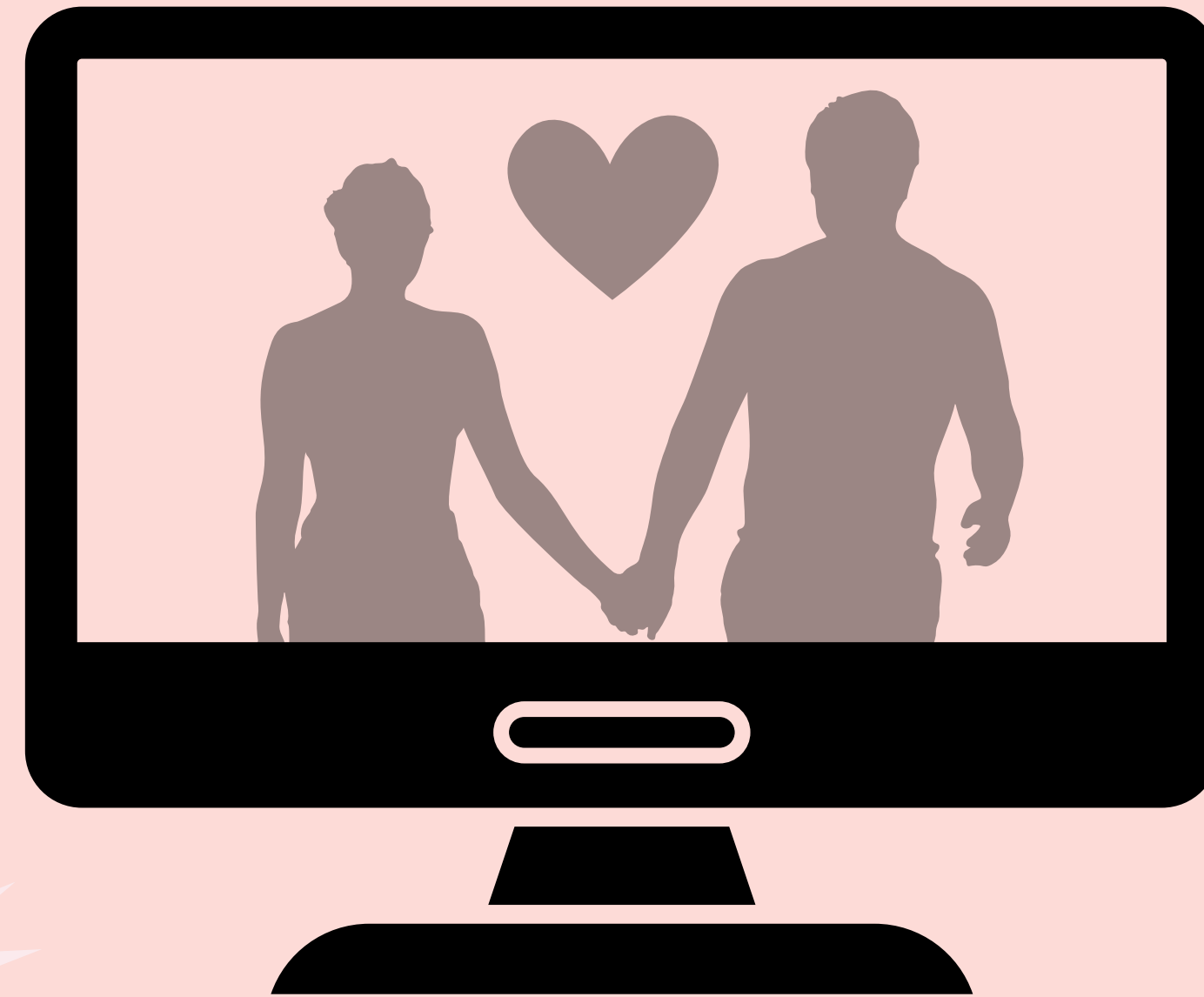
1. Romance Scam

How it works:

A scammer poses as a charming suitor on dating sites or Facebook.

Tactics:

Builds trust over weeks, then creates a financial "emergency" (e.g., stuck overseas, medical bills)



Prevention:

Insist on meeting in person, at a public place, BEFORE sending money for ANY Reason.

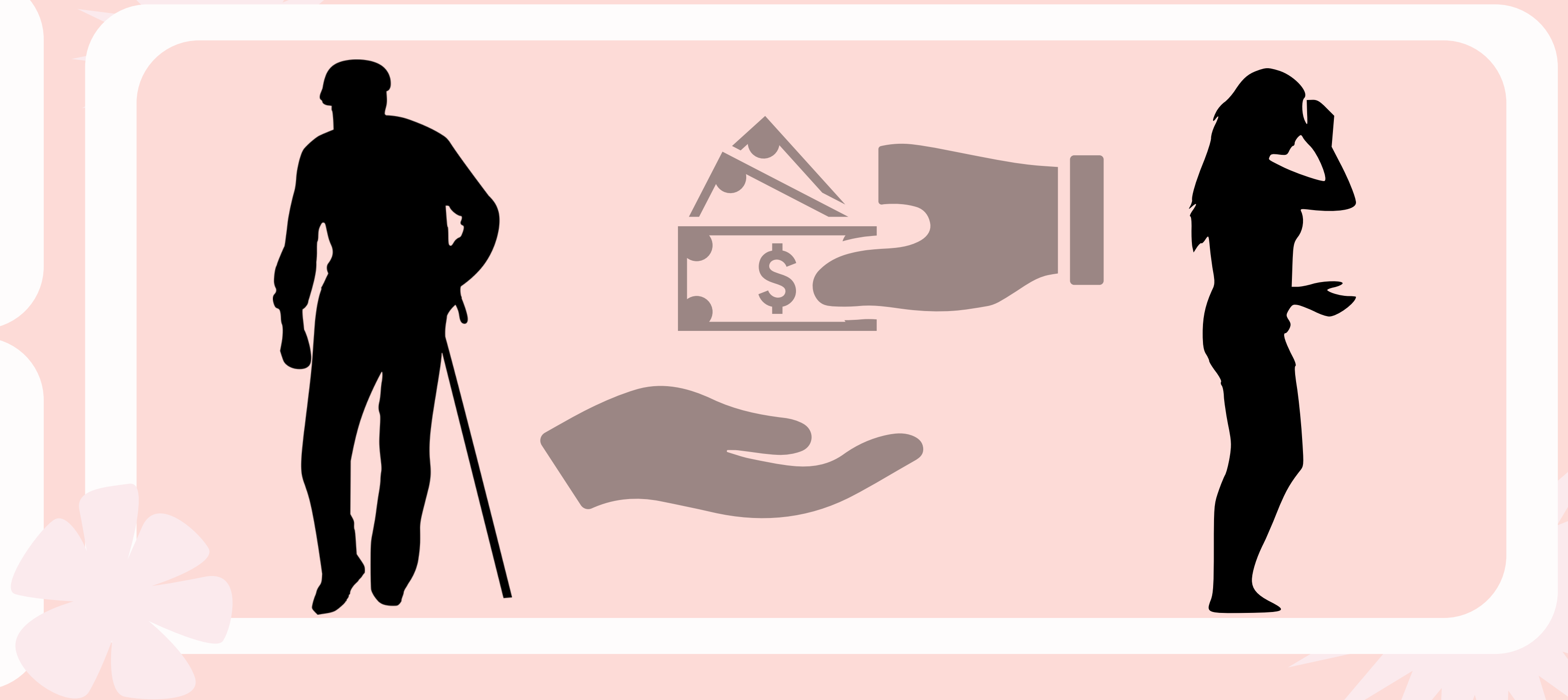
2. Grandparent / Family Emergency Scam

How it works:

You get a call or text saying "Grandma, it's me!" followed by a request for bail money, hospital bills, or travel funds.

Tactics:

Urgency, secrecy ("Don't tell Mom!"), spoofed phone numbers.



Prevention: Stop and verify through established contacts (website or family member).

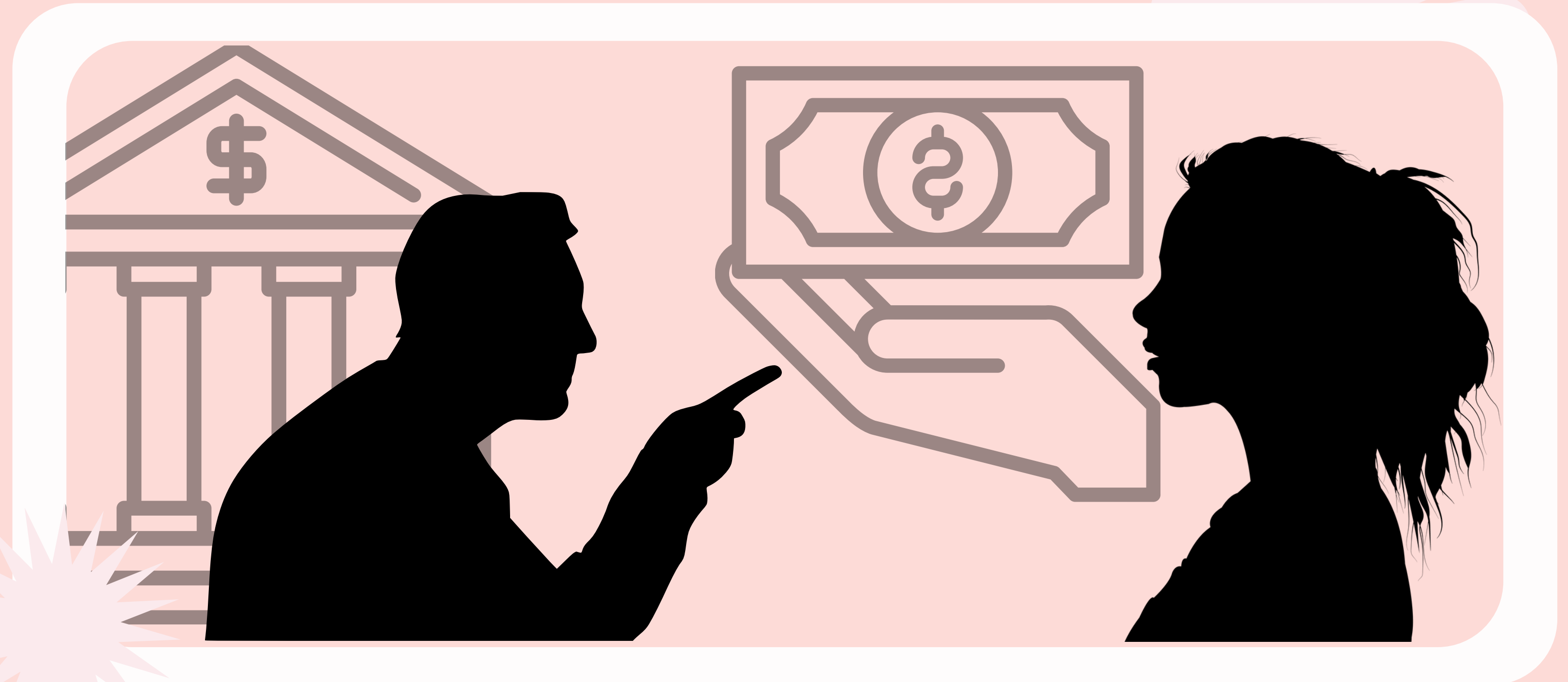
3. Medicare or Social Security Scams

How it works:

You receive a call claiming your Medicare or Social Security benefits are at risk.

Tactics:

Threat of suspension, request for your SSN or bank account to "verify."



Prevention: NEVER give Personal Information Over the Phone unless YOU called THEM.

4. Tech Support Scam

How it works:

A pop-up says your computer has a virus. A “tech rep” offers to fix it.

Tactics:

Remote access to your device + fee for “services” or subscription.

Prevention:

Install virus prevention software (Norton, McAfee) and keep your browsers updated TODAY, before you get scammed.



5. Sweepstakes or Lottery Scam

How it works:

"You've won!" — but you need to pay a fee or taxes to claim it.

Tactics:

Fake checks, urgent deadlines, lots of flattery.

Prevention: Ask them to send you the information in writing BEFORE making any payment.



6. Fake Charities

How it works:

A scammer poses as a disaster relief, veterans, or cancer charity.

Tactics:

Emotional photos, urgent need for donations via phone or Zelle/Venmo.



Prevention: Verify the charity through [CharityWatch](#)

7. Online Shopping Scam

How it works:

You buy from a fake boutique, jewelry, or skincare site — and never receive the item.

Tactics:

Social media ads, fake influencer endorsements.

Prevention:

Use a separate credit card with low credit line or a prepaid gift card.
NEVER use a debit card for online shopping.



8. Home Repair or Contractor Scam

How it works:

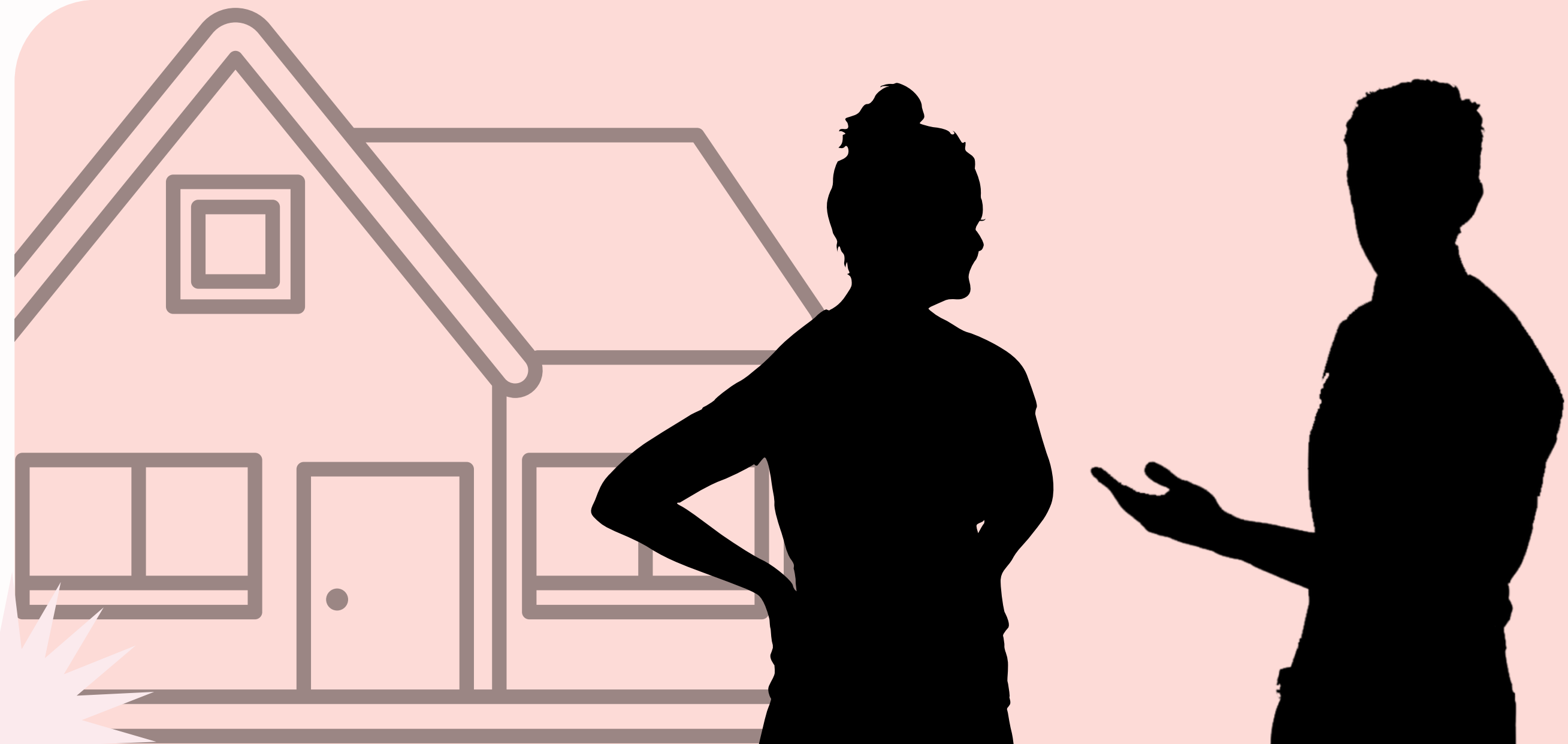
A friendly “contractor” offers repairs — takes payment, then vanishes.

Tactics:

Preys on solo homeowners or recent widows.

Prevention:

Use references from your friends and neighbors, always get the work and price in writing, and do not be pressured into anything “on the spot”.



9. Impersonation of Trusted Brands

How it works:

You get a message from “Amazon,” “Netflix,” or “Apple” asking you to fix a billing issue.

Tactics:

Links to malicious sites that steal personal info.

Prevention:

Look closely for spelling errors in the link, or type the web address directly into your browser instead of clicking any text or email links.



10. Fake Job / Work-from-Home Scam

How it works:

A fake employer offers a remote position or mystery shopping gig.

Tactics:

Sends you a fake check, asks you to buy gift cards, then keep the "extra."



Prevention:

Do your own independent research on the company and its reputation.

You're Smarter Than Any Scam

Hopefully these pages have shown you that scammers thrive on urgency. Their biggest weapon isn't technology, it's **psychology**. They want you to click and act before thinking, panic before checking and act before asking.

Your best
defense is
simple:

- **Slow down**
- **Ask questions**
- **Trust your instincts**



If something feels off, or too good to be true, it probably is. Don't ever feel embarrassed to talk about a suspicious message. **Ask for help**. The more we share, the safer we all are.

Suecurity Hive



Digital Confidence for Women over 50

This is exactly why I created the Sense of Security community – a growing circle of women who stay sharp, connected and confident online.

[Sign up for the free newsletter](#) and get weekly tips that demystify everyday technology and help you spot danger before it strikes.

Let's outsmart the scammers – together!

