

# PROTECT YOURSELF: HOW TO AVOID RENTAL SCAMS

By:



Finding a rental property can be challenging, especially with the prevalence of scams. Protecting yourself is crucial during your search. In this post, we'll explore common red flags of rental scams and provide practical tips to avoid them.

## Recognizing the Signs:

Rental scams often leave behind telltale signs that can help you identify and steer clear of fraudulent listings. Here are some signs to watch out for:

### 1. Too Good to be True:

Exercise skepticism if a rental ad offers a stunning property at an unusually low price. Always view the property before committing.

### 2. Altered Contact Information:

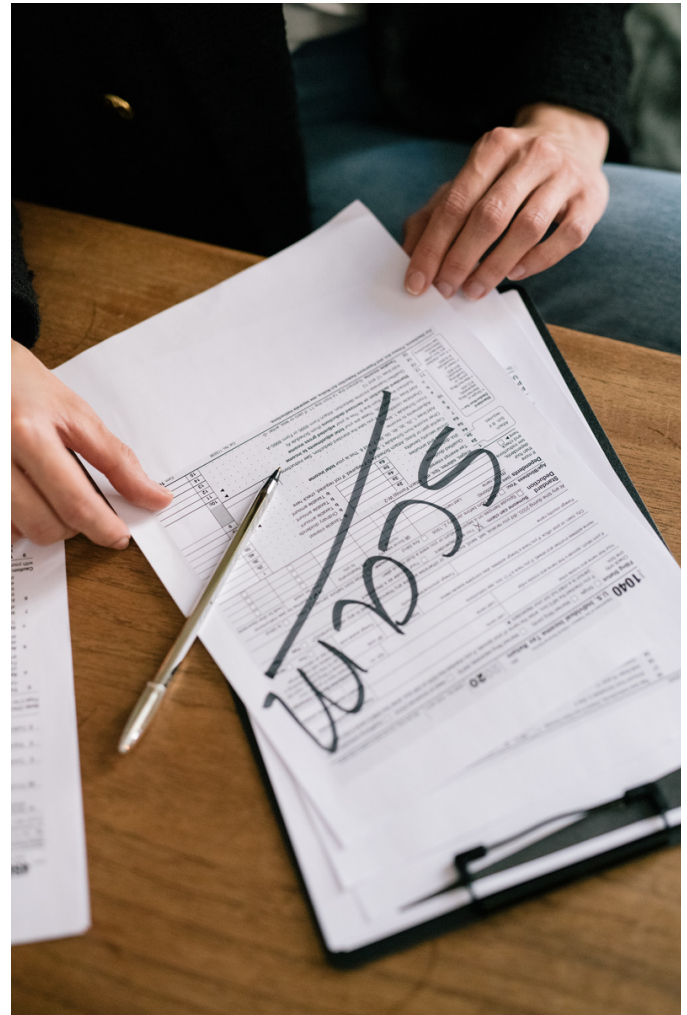
Scammers may pose as landlords using authentic ads but altered contact details. Thoroughly research to ensure consistency.

### 3. Nonexistent Properties or Availability:

Beware of fake ads for properties that don't exist or aren't available. Insist on seeing the property and signing the lease before making payments. The scammer's goal is to deceive you into sending money before discovering the truth.

## Protective Measures:

Now that you're aware of the signs, let's explore some proactive steps you can take to avoid rental scams:



### Secure Payment Methods:

Avoid cash, wire transfers, or hard-to-trace alternatives. Use safer methods like bank cheques or money orders. Verify the rental's legitimacy before paying.

### Verify Landlord and Property Information:

Research the rental unit's address, landlord's name, and contact information online. Be cautious of anonymous landlords.

### Trust Your Instincts:

Legitimate landlords request references or conduct credit checks. Speak to current tenants if possible.

**With our expertise and dedication to your satisfaction, Welcome Home Milwaukee will help you find the perfect place to call home without the stress and risk of scams. Trust us to guide you toward a safe and secure housing solution, making your search a pleasant and worry-free journey!**