



Headline: How to avoid getting scammed
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TACKLING CYBERCRIME

How to avoid getting scammed

THE prevalence of cybercrime is attributed to the difficulty of tracing the perpetrators.

The police said cybercrimes had increased by 10.55 per cent, from 10,742 in 2018, to 11,875 in 2019. Losses also rose from RM400 million to RM500 million.

Many fraud cases involved victims who disclosed their Transaction Authorisation Code (TAC).

Scammers would access victims' bank accounts and then request the TAC on the pretext of transferring their money into the victims' accounts by mistake.

Macau scams also accounted for a large proportion of fraud cases in which the perpetrators tricked victims into transferring a large amounts of money from their accounts.

Therefore, taking precautions is vital to avoid becoming a vic-

tim of cybercrime. Download a mobile phone application that can identify unknown callers and do not answer calls from suspicious numbers.

Avoid callers from abroad requesting to purchase something or claim that you have won a competition that you did not participate in.

This is one of the scammers' strategies to entice victims into their trap. Bear in mind that it is better to lose the competition than to lose your hard-earned money.

Keep your information private and confidential. Scammers go to great lengths to impart urgency or fear to their victims.

Most — if not all — authorities will allow you to verify their claims if they contact you over the phone. Thus, check with the right authority whether their

claims are true and do not jump the gun by believing them.

Use trusted platforms and always look for a valid review before making any purchase. Trusted platforms will have good customer service and offer extra security to users.

Review stars, comments and media shared by buyers so that the item fits the description and authenticate the legitimacy of the seller.

Scammers on a trusted e-commerce platform attempt to lure victims into continuing transactions off-platform.

Keep records of all contact and the proof of transaction, and always review your transaction and purchase information.

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