



LET'S TALK ABOUT GIFT CARD FRAUD



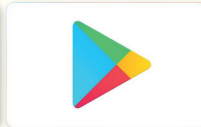
STOP

CHALLENGE

PROTECT

1

Gift card scams start with a call, text, email, WhatsApp message or social media message. Scammers will say almost anything to get you to purchase gift cards — like Google Play, Apple, Steam, iTunes, or Amazon cards.



2

If you get a message from anyone claiming to be a family member, a friend, or someone purporting to be from reputable organisation such as HMRC, a bank, or the Police, and you are asked to purchase any gift cards - **STOP!** - it will be a scam.

3

Scammers will often claim it is an emergency and typically invent a time-critical reason as to why they need you to help them, they need to pay an urgent bill, for example. They will often pull at heartstrings and say you are the only person they can turn to **CHALLENGE**. Ignore the request, it will be fake.

4

Don't purchase gift cards in large quantities or visit several stores to purchase gift cards. **PROTECT** yourself by trying to speak to the person you think is asking for the gift card directly or in person.

Read this leaflet? Pass it on to a relative, friend or neighbour.
Let's all talk about crime and how to prevent it happening.



essex.police.uk/cp #staysafe
takefive-stopfraud.org.uk

