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# Craigslist

Craigslist has exploded in popularity over the last few years. On Craigslist.com you can find a job, or look for a job, you can sell that old china cabinet your mother gave you that you always hated, buy a perfect crib for the baby you're expecting or even give away the Franklin Stove that came with your house. However, the popularity of Craigslist has also made it home to many people seeking to take advantage, and so you have to watch carefully for frauds.

One scheme that is often seen involves listing a car for an amazingly low price. The listing may tell the story of how the vehicle is owned by someone in the armed forces and is being shipped home. And how desperately money is needed before its arrival. The unsuspecting buyer sends the cash, only to be left in the lurch. No car ever arrives.

Another scam recently shut down was a man attempting to rent out a house he did even own, luckily he was arrested. However, he was able to collect thousands of dollars before he was apprehended. But for the people who had already fallen victim to his scam, the money is gone forever. A little bit of background work and checking would have helped those prospective renters to avoid this scam and save their money.

Another common scam involves fake job postings. That's why it is always wise to approach "work from home" ads with caution. Many times, after paying an upfront fee, the job seeker will find little if any real work. If you ever get a phone number, its easy to use a telephone look-up directory such as [www.people-tracking-portal.com/l/1.html](http://www.people-tracking-portal.com/l/1.html) to make sure the person is not be impersonating someone else.

When considering anything on Craigslist, it is very important that a thorough investigation be conducted. Money should never be sent for anything without a personal review or some type of a legitimate guarantee on the item. Additionally, any response to personal ads should be done with much caution as many romance scammers utilize this site to take advantage of lonely hearts.

There have also been many people who have sent money to pay for an item and the item is never sent. Of course, when this happens, there is no recourse and the money is simply gone. When dealing with Craigslist and making a purchase, it is much better to meet the seller directly to make an exchange of the money for the item. This allows you to take a look at the merchandise before actually paying for it.

Craigslist is a free service for sellers of goods that has benefited a lot of people. However, with scammers ready to use any means to commit fraud it has become an easy means to swindle people. Any use of this program should be approached with the same caution one would use when dealing with any unknown person to avoid being cheated out of their funds.

Anytime there is a request to have money wired to a distant location, or a money order or cashiers check is being requested, those are red flags and you may not want to deal with those sellers. Ideally, all Craigslist purchases should be done locally where a physical meeting can be arranged for every one's safety and convenience. You should also take care that you never give out your personal information and remember that if an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

To find out more about reverse phone look up services that help prevent frauds, visit [www.people-tracking-portal.com/K/2.html](http://www.people-tracking-portal.com/K/2.html)

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