



Protecting Yourself from Financial Abuse

Discover nine steps you can take to protect yourself from financial abuse.

- 1. Follow your bank's security advice**
They'll show you how to keep your bank details secure.
- 2. Be sure to contact your bank straight away**
If you notice any unusual financial activity, be sure to contact your bank immediately.
- 3. Keep important documents in a safe place**
A bank safety deposit box is ideal.
- 4. Avoid keeping large sums of cash at home**
This includes in wallets and handbags.
- 5. Avoid signing any documents**
Unless you clearly understand and accept the conditions and potential outcomes of what you are being asked to sign, don't sign your name. Get independent advice before signing. It helps you and the other party get the best outcome.
- 6. Ask strangers for ID**
You don't have to let anyone in the house you don't feel comfortable with.
- 7. Trust your instincts**
If what you are being asked to do doesn't feel right to you, don't take any action.
- 8. Consult someone you trust**
If you're being asked to make financial decisions that don't sit well with you, be sure to speak with an independent family member, a friend, and/or an advisor who has no financial interest in the outcome.
- 9. Don't share any financial details over the phone**
Even if they claim to be from a charity you have heard of.