

# Reporting a Scam

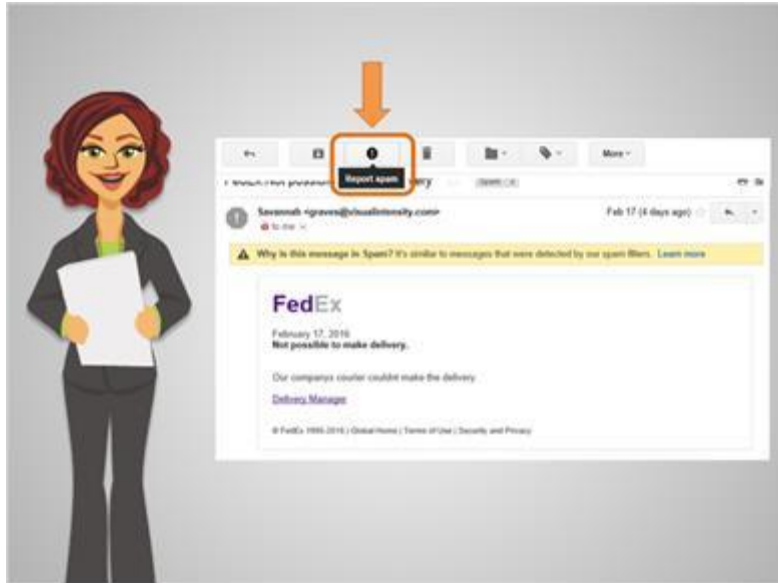
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Online scams can originate from anywhere in the world. This makes it very difficult or even impossible to track down who is really behind them. However, there are a few actions you can take to help protect others from falling for the same scam.



If you encounter a phishing scam imitating an organization you know, you can contact that organization. But remember not to use the contact information in the email. Look up their information from a different source. Then, they can warn their other customers about it. For example, if you see an email imitating the IRS, you can forward it to [phishing@irs.gov](mailto:phishing@irs.gov).



If you receive an email scam, put the message in your spam or junk folder. This helps email providers like Gmail and Yahoo warn others who receive the same email.



You can also file official complaints with the Federal Trade Commission by visiting their website at [ftc.gov/complaint](https://www.ftc.gov/complaint).

**Remember the warning signs you've learned in this course in order to protect yourself from scams any time that you browse the web or use email.**