



## Spot the **RENTAL SCAMS**

With rental scams on the rise in Ontario, here are some red flags to watch out for.

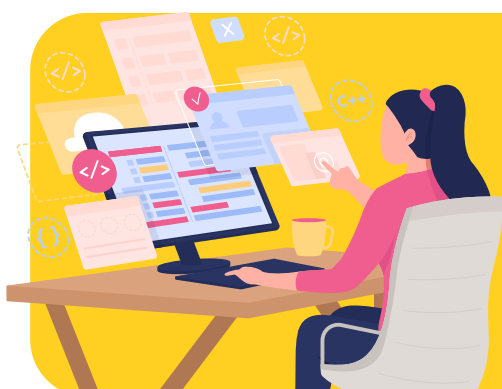
### **THE RENT IS LOW**

If the listed rental rate is below other comparable rentals in the area, be careful and do more research.



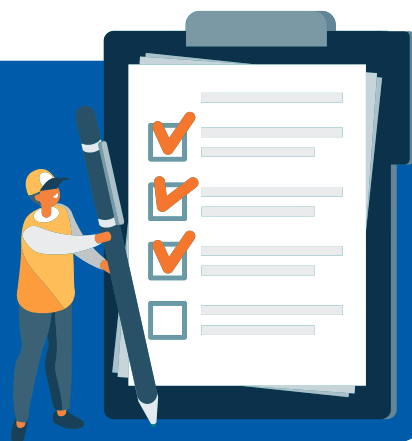
### **THEY AVOID SHOWING YOU THE UNIT**

Be wary if the landlord makes consistent or elaborate excuses as to why they can't show you the unit.



### **THE "LANDLORD" ASKS FOR MONEY RIGHT AWAY**

Warning! If a landlord is pressuring you to send money up front - don't. A landlord can only ask for first and last month's rent deposit when you sign a lease.



### **THE LISTED OWNER ISN'T THE SAME**

It's a good idea to check the listed property/title owner where possible, to ensure it's the same person that is listed as the landlord. Also search all the names, numbers, and addresses on the ad to see if it's been flagged before.



### **THEIR COMMUNICATION SEEMS OFF**

Communications may seem normal at first, but then the "landlord" becomes persistent or angry, or their grammar and spelling seems unusual.



### **TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS**

If something feels off or the listing seems too good to be true, trust your gut. It might be a scam.



Advocacy Centre  
for Tenants Ontario | Tenant Duty  
Counsel Program

For more tenant tips visit  
[www.acto.ca](http://www.acto.ca)