

WORST-CASE SCENARIO®

HOW TO DETERMINE IF YOUR DATE IS A CON ARTIST

1

Watch for the following:

- Has your date missed a string of dates with you?
- Does she change dates at the last minute?
- Does she frequently receive unexplained phone calls?
- Does she refuse to give out information about her past?
- Is she known only by a first or last name?
- Is she loath to contact family members?
- Does she lack connections to the community, friends, or co-workers?
- Does she frequently express concerns about her finances?
- Has she ever asked you for a short-term loan or investment?
- Does she often change her stories and claims?

If the answer to three or more of these questions is yes, you may be dating a con artist (or a pathological liar).

2

Watch your date's eyes during conversation.

Most people look to their right when recalling the truth, the past, and events that actually happened. People look to the left when “creating” or spinning out new versions of past events. Ask her a question about her past and see where her eyes move.



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3 Obtain her social security number and investigate her records.

With a social security number or driver's license number and birthdate, you can check out a person's records—criminal, financial, voting, and more. A good place to start is a “people finder” website on the Internet. Or you can hire a private detective.

4 Trust your intuition.

If you have doubts, there is probably a reason.

5 Protect yourself.

Take an inventory of your credit cards, bank accounts, and other financial assets. If you have broken off the relationship and she is desperate, she may try to dupe or rob you. Request new credit cards; change your e-mail, voicemail, burglar alarm, and banking passwords; select a new PIN for each of your accounts. Change your locks, if necessary.