



# 5 Ways to Identify an IRS Scam

Photo Credit: Andrew Illarionov

## The IRS will never do the following:

1. Call and demand immediate payment of a tax bill.
2. Demand you pay taxes without giving taxpayers the chance to question or appeal the amount they owe.
3. Require use of a specific method of payment like a prepaid debit card.
4. Ask for a credit card number over the phone.
5. Threaten to call the police to have someone arrested if a bill is not paid immediately.

## Keep in mind:

- The IRS will never send unsolicited emails or texts.
- The IRS will not contact you through social media.
- Scammers can be very convincing. They can alter their caller ID to make it look like they are calling from the IRS. They may even share fake names and fake badge numbers in an effort to deceive you.

## What you can do:

- If you know you owe or think you owe taxes, you can contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 for assistance with payment.
- For more information, you can go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)