



WHAT IS CATFISHING?

What is catfishing?



When someone pretends to be another person online by using **fake pictures** or **made-up details**. They do this to trick others into thinking they are friends or in a relationship. Often, the person has bad intentions, like trying to steal **money, images** or **hurt someone's feelings**.

How would you know if someone isn't being honest about their identity online?



Time
Remaining!

Red Flags to Look Out For



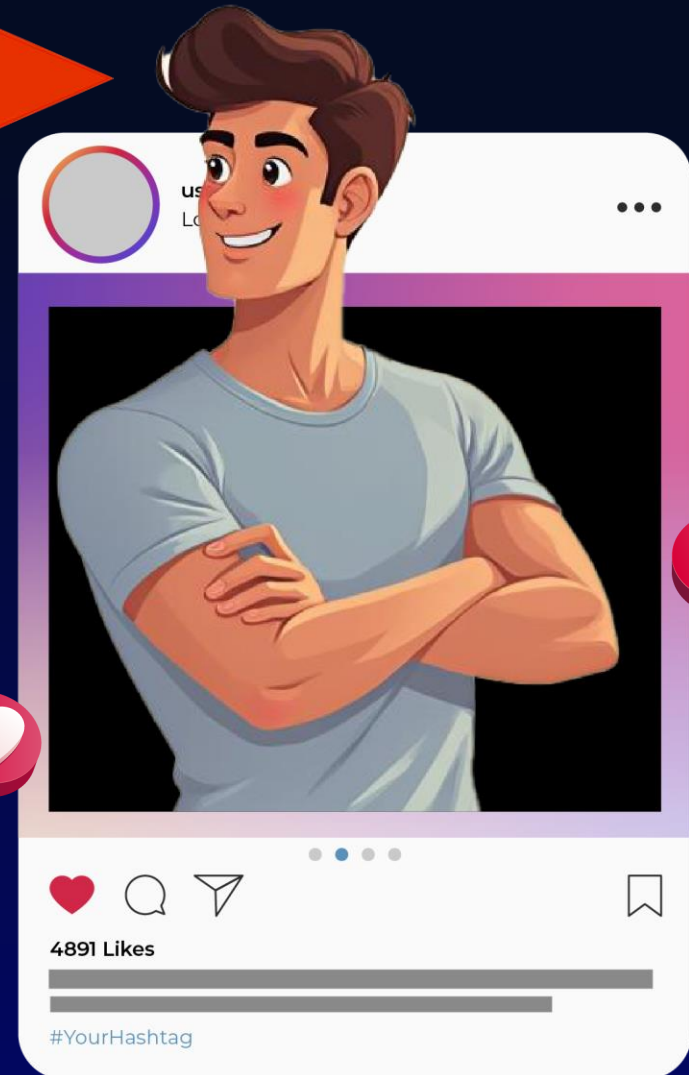
They claim to be a friend
with a new account

MarkWilson897_

Hey, this is my new account. Old one
got hacked!!



It feels too good to be true





They copy your interests

Wait, you play Fortnite?

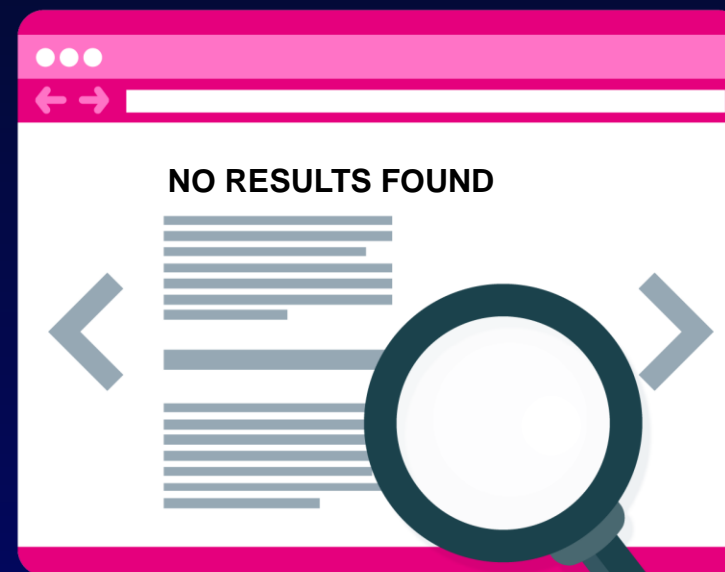


Yeah, ofc I love it!

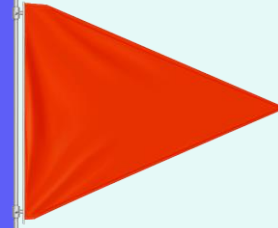




You can't find them
anywhere else online



They ask you lots of personal questions



- Where do you live?
- What school do you go to?
- Is your mum or dad home?
- Do you have lots of friends?
- Have you ever been bullied?



They ask for money



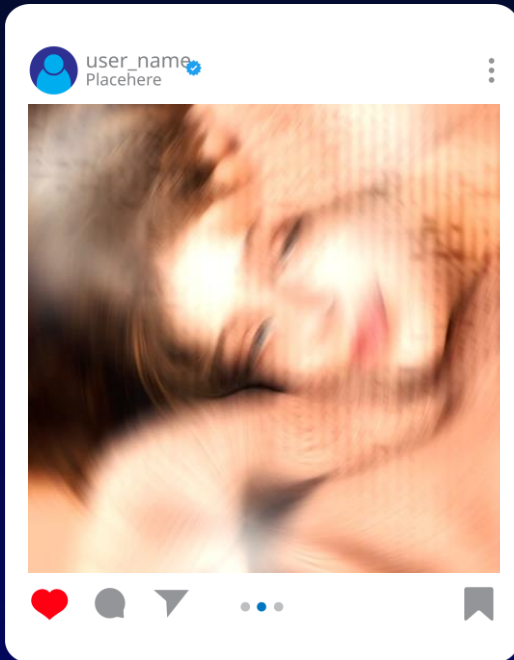
I'm so embarrassed to ask... Maybe you could lend me some money? I'll send it back to you when I get paid. Just £200 or so...?



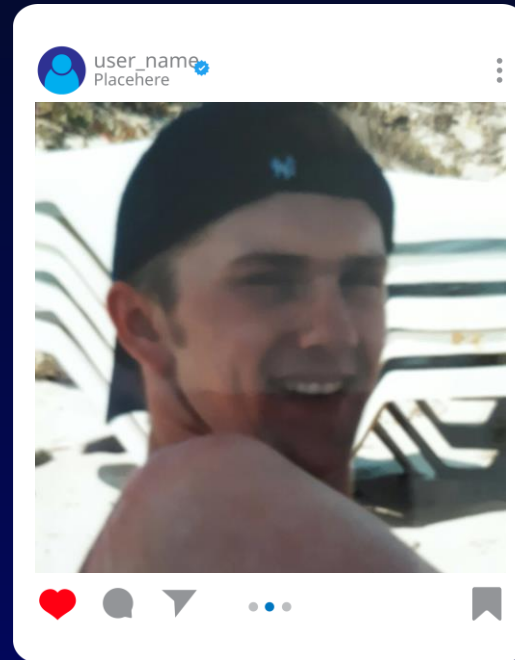


**Their stories don't
match up**

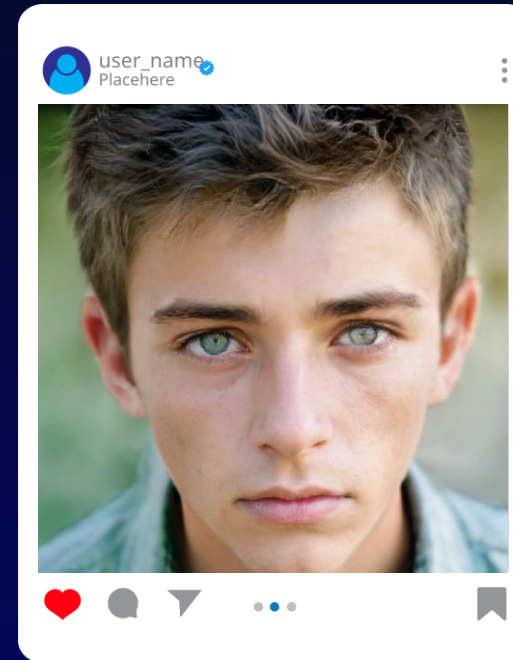
Their photos are strange



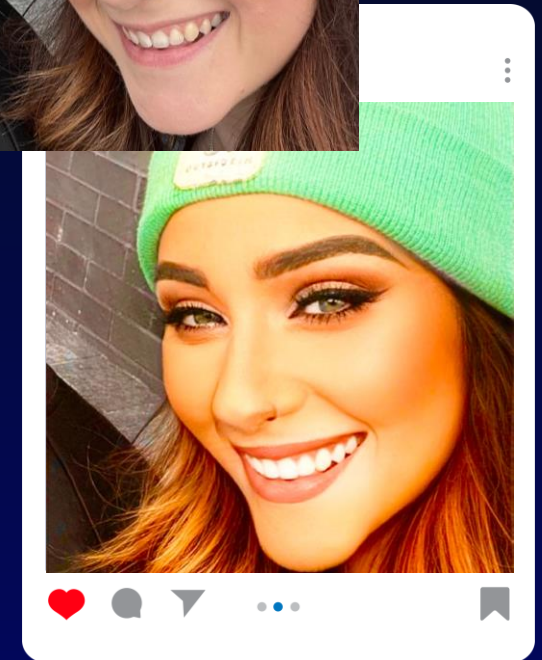
Blurry



Old or grainy



AI generated



Heavily edited



**They want to keep
things a secret**





Remember!

Listen to the people who care about you when they have concerns. They might be able to see things that you can't.





What to do if you think you're being catfished...



Don't send anything
that makes you feel
uncomfortable



Check their photos with Google's
Reverse Image Search



Screenshot, block and
report



What to do if you think you're being catfished...



Talk to someone – a problem shared is a problem halved!



If you are in danger, call the police for help on 999.



**You are not alone, always talk to one of
your trusted adults if something is
bothering you.**

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME

childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

