

Spotting IRS Scams: How to Identify Legitimate IRS Contact

The IRS follows specific protocols when reaching out to taxpayers. Here's how to distinguish genuine IRS communications from scam attempts:

Legitimate IRS Initial Contact:

- First contact is almost always through regular mail
- You'll receive multiple letters before any phone contact

Red Flags of Scam Communications:

- Demands for immediate payment
- Requests for specific payment methods like gift cards or prepaid debit cards
- Threats of arrest or law enforcement involvement
- Requests for credit card or PIN numbers over the phone
- Unsolicited emails asking for personal information

Text Messages and Emails:

- The IRS does not initiate contact via text messages
- They don't send emails requesting personal or financial information
- Suspicious messages should be reported to phishing@irs.gov

When the IRS May Call:

- Overdue tax bills
- Delinquent tax returns
- Missed employment tax deposits

If You Receive a Suspicious Contact:

- Don't provide any personal information
- Report suspicious emails and texts
- Remember: The IRS will never initiate contact through social media, text, or email to request personal or financial information

Stay vigilant and remember that legitimate IRS communication starts with official mail correspondence. When in doubt, contact the IRS directly through their official channels to verify any communication's authenticity.

This information is provided to you by Arrowhead Tax Service. We make every effort to provide honest and accurate tax information. Please use your discretion before making any

decisions based on the information provided, every tax situation is different. If you have any questions, please visit our office or call us at 937-543-5770.