

What if a call comes in your family's voice? — AI scams

Five-Minute AI Lessons · Oct 19, 2026

A voice can be copied, but a call you make yourself can't.

In a nutshell

- 1 AI scams always follow the same steps. **Copy a voice or face → pretend to be someone you know → rush you → ask for money or information.**
- 2 The FBI in the US has put out **an official warning that AI-made voices, photos and videos are being used in scams.** Even a short voice clip is enough to copy someone pretty closely.
- 3 Stopping it is almost boringly simple. **Hang up, then call back yourself on the number you already knew.** If it really is your family, calling back changes nothing.

What scams aim for / What breaks them

What scams aim for

- A voice and face you know
- The rush of 'right now'
- Making you decide alone



What breaks them

- Hang up and call back yourself
- Pause a beat and think
- Tell an adult nearby

Don't try to tell by ear whether the voice is real — that's hard now. Instead, you change who's calling whom.

Key idea: don't try to guess if it's real — call back yourself on a number you know

The order of a scam, and the order for cutting it off

How a scam comes at you

- 1 Grab a short voice clip
- 2 Copy the voice
- 3 Call pretending to be family
- 4 Pressure: 'It's urgent!'
- 5 Ask for money or info

Collect the material, copy, make it urgent, demand. Without the 'it's urgent' p...

How you cut it off

- 1 Hang up first
- 2 Call a number you know
- 3 Check with family directly
- 4 Tell an adult

Hanging up isn't rude. If it was real, you just call back, so you lose nothing;...

When someone poses as a f...

- 1 An unfamiliar account
- 2 An urgent favor message
- 3 Asks for a link or money
- 4 Check with your friend

Even if it sounds like your friend, stop if the account is unfamiliar. Checking...

Tap the mixed-up pieces in order. Once you know the path a scam takes, you can see where to cut it off.

Try it yourself in the web lesson · next-token.net/en/learn/day-43/

Just three questions

Q1

What's the surest way to stop an AI scam call?

- ① Hang up and call back on a number you know
- ② Tell the real voice apart by ear
- ③ Stay on the call longer
- ④ Ask the caller their name

Q2

Why do scammers push 'it's urgent'?

- ① They really are out of time
- ② So you don't get time to check
- ③ To save on their phone bill
- ④ To be polite

Q3

A friend asks for an urgent favor from an unfamiliar account. You...

- ① Send it right away
- ② Ask that account back
- ③ Check via your usual contact
- ④ Tap the link to see

Know the why, too

Q1

- ① Voices are hard to tell apart by ear now. But if you change who's calling whom, the copy is useless.

Q2

- ② The whole thing falls apart once you check, so they don't give you time to. That's why the more urgent it feels, the more you pause.

Q3

- ③ If you ask that account, the scammer is the one who answers. Checking only means something through the contact you already used.

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but a call you make yourself can't.**



Tomorrow: Not leaning on it too much — if you hand more and more to AI, what happens to your own skills?