

ScamCheck Claude v1.0

Spam & Scam Detection Engine — User Guide

scamcheckclaude.iacolettisoftware.com • Version 1.0 • March 2026 • Iacoletti Software

Section 1 — Disclaimer & End User License Agreement

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Project: ScamCheck Claude v1.0 | Licensor: Iacoletti Software | Effective Date: March 2026

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Section 2 — Overview

ScamCheck Claude v1.0 is an AI-powered scam and fraud detection engine that analyzes photos, screenshots, and PDF documents for deceptive patterns, impersonation tactics, and fraud indicators. It

delivers a structured forensic report with a risk score (0–100), a verdict, a visual description of the submitted material, and a detailed breakdown of every red flag found.

Unlike tools that simply flag keywords, ScamCheck performs forensic reasoning on the psychological structure of deception — identifying impersonation design intent, urgency manipulation, manufactured authority, and grooming scripts.

Who It Is For

ScamCheck is for anyone who receives suspicious mail, email, documents, or personal correspondence and wants an independent AI analysis. Especially useful for:

- Individuals evaluating suspicious physical mail or email
- People concerned about romance scams or investment fraud
- Caregivers and family members helping seniors assess suspicious correspondence
- Professionals who need quick forensic triage of suspicious documents

Use Cases

Use Case	Description
Physical Mail	Warranty notices, IRS-lookalike mailers, Medicare scams, sweepstakes letters
Email Phishing	Screenshot suspicious emails for a full forensic breakdown of every deceptive element
Romance Scams	Submit screenshots of suspicious conversations — ScamCheck scores grooming patterns
Investment Fraud	Identify pig butchering scripts, fake platforms, and withdrawal traps
Document Forgery	Detect manipulated PDFs, fake legal notices, and fraudulent contract terms
Elder Fraud	Identify lottery, inheritance, and government impersonation scams targeting seniors

Section 3 — Getting Started

ScamCheck runs entirely in your browser — no installation required. You need a personal Anthropic API key from console.anthropic.com.

Setting Up Your API Key

1. Go to console.anthropic.com and create a free account.
2. Go to Settings > Billing, add a payment method, and purchase at least \$5 in credits (mandatory minimum — credits never expire).
3. Go to Settings > Limits and set a monthly spending cap — \$5–\$10/month covers most personal use.
4. Go to API Keys, click Create Key, name it 'ScamCheck', and click Create.
5. Copy the key immediately (starts with sk-ant-...) — it cannot be viewed again. Store it in a password manager.
6. Open ScamCheck at scamcheckclaude.iacolettissoftware.com, paste your key, and click Save & Activate.

Section 4 — How to Run a Scan

7. Click Clear Staged Evidence to start with a clean slate.
8. Choose CAMERA (live photo capture) or IMPORT (upload a file up to 3 MB — JPG, PNG, WebP, GIF, or PDF).
9. Click BEGIN SCAN. Keep the tab open — analysis takes 15–40 seconds.
10. Review the Scam Analysis Report when it appears (see Section 5 for report details).
11. Save your results before closing the tab (see Section 6).
12. Click Clear Staged Evidence when done to maintain privacy.

Type	Formats & Notes
Images	JPG, PNG, WebP, GIF — or live camera capture — must be under 3 MB
Documents	PDF — full content extraction and fraud analysis — must be under 3 MB

- Photograph physical mail flat on a dark surface with good lighting, capturing the full document.
- Screenshot emails including the sender address and subject line for best forensic context.
- If results seem sparse, click BEGIN SCAN again — successive scans often yield more detail.

Section 5 — Understanding Your Results

Panel	Contents
Risk Score Dial	0–100 score — higher means more suspicious
Risk Level Badge	Low / Medium / High / Critical — color coded
Verdict Badge	Legitimate / Suspicious / Spam / Scam — the AI's final determination
Visual Analysis	3–5 sentences describing what Claude sees in the submitted document
Fraud Indicators	Every deceptive element found, categorized by type and severity
Verdict Reasoning	Direct explanation of why Claude assigned this score
Token & Cost Display	Input tokens, output tokens, and estimated cost for the scan

Risk Score Ranges

Score	Level	Meaning
0–24	Low	Evidence consistent with legitimate correspondence. No significant red flags.
25–49	Medium	Some ambiguous indicators. Verify independently before engaging.
50–79	High	Multiple corroborating fraud indicators. Likely scam or spam.
80–100	Critical	High confidence this is a scam. Do not engage or send money.

Verdicts

Verdict	Meaning
Legitimate	No significant fraud indicators found
Suspicious	Notable red flags present but not definitively a scam

Verdict	Meaning
Spam	Unsolicited content using deceptive or manipulative tactics
Scam	High confidence of fraudulent intent — designed to deceive or defraud

Section 6 — Saving Your Results

Results are displayed in your browser only and are permanently discarded when you close the tab or start a new scan. Save before leaving the page.

- Save as Text — click the document icon in the report header to download the full report as a plain text file.
- Save as PDF — click the PDF icon in the report header to download a formatted PDF of the full report.

Section 7 — What ScamCheck Detects

Government & Authority Impersonation

- IRS, SSA, Medicare, USPS, FTC, FBI, or court names and logos used by a private company
- 'Official Business / Penalty for Private Use' language on non-government mail
- Barcodes, permit stamps, form numbers, and franking marks mimicking official mail
- Fine print that contradicts the headline claim of the document

Urgency & Pressure Tactics

- Artificial deadlines, fear language, threats of financial penalty or legal action
- 'Final notice', 'last attempt', 'act immediately', and countdown language

Financial Fraud Patterns

- Requests for gift cards, wire transfer, cryptocurrency, or money orders
- Upfront fees to claim a prize or inheritance; unsolicited lottery or sweepstakes claims
- Guaranteed investment returns or passive income promises

Romance Scam & Pig Butchering

Pattern	Description
Love Bombing	Intense early affection and soulmate language before any real relationship
Financial Grooming	Steering toward investments or crypto after establishing emotional connection
Manufactured Crisis	Sudden urgent money need after trust is established — medical emergency, frozen assets
Pig Butchering	Wrong-number contact leading to friendship, romance, then investment opportunity
Withdrawal Trap	Fees or taxes required before withdrawing investment profits (auto-scores 95+)
Trust Isolation	Discouraging the recipient from discussing the relationship with others

Section 8 — Data Security, Privacy & BYOK Architecture

Bring Your Own Key (BYOK) Architecture

ScamCheck Claude is built on a Bring Your Own Key (BYOK) architecture. This means the application never holds, transmits, or has access to your API credentials or the content you analyze. Your Anthropic API key is the authentication token that belongs to you.

When you enter your API key in the app, it is stored exclusively in your browser's local storage. Every API call goes directly from your browser to Anthropic's servers, authenticated under your personal Anthropic account.

This architecture was chosen specifically to protect your privacy. Because Iacoletti Software never receives your data, it is structurally impossible for your content to be stored, sold, or exposed through Iacoletti Software. Your data belongs to you, travels only between your browser and Anthropic, and is encrypted with your API key in transit.

What Anthropic Sees

When you submit content for analysis, it is sent directly from your browser to Anthropic's Claude API using your personal API key. Anthropic processes the request under your account. Review Anthropic's data usage and privacy policies at anthropic.com/privacy for current terms.

Item	Detail
API Key Storage	Browser localStorage only
Media Files	Sent directly from your browser to Anthropic's Claude API
Results	Displayed in your browser only — never stored anywhere
Encryption	All API calls use HTTPS/TLS encryption in transit
BYOK	Your API key authenticates directly with Anthropic

Note: The Anthropic API is not designed for classified, privileged, or highly sensitive documents. Do not upload attorney-client privileged communications, classified government information, or third-party personal health information without authorization. Review Anthropic's privacy policy at anthropic.com/privacy before uploading sensitive material.

Section 9 — API Cost

ScamCheck Claude uses the Anthropic pay-as-you-go API. You pay Anthropic directly. The typical cost is \$0.04–\$0.08 per scan.

TIP: Monitor your balance at console.anthropic.com/usage. Credits never expire. Starting with \$10 is a practical first load for most users.