HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR CREDIT SCORE

EQUIFAX





1) REVIEW YOUR CREDIT REPORTS

Before making a plan to improve your credit, you must assess your credit status. You can do this by getting an free annual credit report from the 3 credit bureaus.

CLICK HERE for your credit report

2) FOCUS ON PAYMENT HISTORY

Make sure to pay off debts, such as loans, FIRST

Pay all credit card bills on time and in full to avoid late fees and damage to your credit score

- Automate payments
- Set due-date alerts





3) KEEP CREDIT UTILIZATION BELOW 30%

Spend between 10% and 30% of your available credit limit

- Only spend what you can pay off
- Pay off purchases immediately
- Make multiple payments per month

Read THIS ARTICLE for more tips to lower credit utilization

4) LIMIT CREDIT INQUIRIES

Credit inquiries can occur when you apply for certain jobs, an apartment, a mortgage, a credit card, or a loan. Credit inquiries can also occur when you check your credit score



Limit these as much as possible by responsibly monitoring your credit



5) ADD TO LENGTH OF CREDIT HISTORY

- Avoid canceling credit cards
- Use Experian Boost or UltraFICO to add to your credit history
- Use Rental Kharma, RentTrack, or Alto to report your rental payment history

6) DIVERSIFY YOUR CREDIT MIX

Have a mixture of revolving and installment credit accounts

- Installment credit has a series of payments due every month with a fixed end date (loans, mortgages)
- Revolving credit does not have a set balance or specific end date (credit cards)

To learn more about installment and revolving credit, <u>CLICK HERE</u>

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