



FINANCIAL
WELLNESS

Ways to Improve Your Credit Score

Many Americans struggle with establishing good credit. These are some of the ways in which you can help to improve your credit score and support financial wellness.



Start by reviewing your credit reports

Check your credit report using TransUnion, Equifax, and Experian. To get started, go to annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228.

Seek advice from a professional

Go to your credit union and speak with a specialist who can help improve your financial wellness through education and credit union programs. Their job is to help steer you in the right direction to help achieve your financial goals.

Increase Credit Limits

Consistently maxing out your cards could have a negative impact on your credit score. Try requesting an increase on your credit limit to make you look more responsible with the usage of your credit cards.

Get a personal loan to pay off credit card debt

Most credit cards usually have high interest rates. A high balance on your cards can get expensive and also hurts your credit score. See if you qualify for a personal loan from your credit union that can help you to consolidate your balances.

Get a secured credit union credit card after bankruptcy

It can take up to 10 years to clear bankruptcy from your report, leaving a long road ahead for someone that has filed bankruptcy. Thankfully, many credit unions offer a secured credit card that is linked to a bank savings account and can be a reasonable way to help rebuild your credit.

Protect your financial plan with Life Insurance

Unexpected illness or injuries are known to dramatically increase debt, as most people are unprepared to handle the medical bills or expenses associated with death of a loved one. Your plan to improve your financial wellness should include insurance protection in the event the unexpected occurs.

Pay bills on time

Never miss a payment again by setting up payment reminders or automatic payments. Missing a single payment will negatively impact your score. Make sure that you pay the minimum amount every month and pay down an additional amount each month as your budget allows.

Dispute Incorrect Information in Your Credit Reports

Work on cleaning up misinformation on your credit report. Did you know that you have every right to dispute incorrect information? Or maybe a creditor incorrectly marked the payment as 'late'. Achieve this by writing a letter to the agency explaining why they should remove the information.

Avoid opening too many new credit accounts

Opening too many "young" accounts can negatively impact your score. Creditors want to see that you responsibly use your available credit over a longer period of time.