

22 Ways to Increase

Your Credit Score!



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Your credit score affects many aspects of your life. If you want a better house, apartment, job, car, cell phone, or other modern luxuries, your credit score plays a *big* role in whether you can get them at all.

Unless your credit score is already above 750, *raising it will bring you more opportunities* and make it easier for you to claim the life you desire.

Follow these strategies to increase your credit score:

1. Learn what your credit score currently is, so you'll know where you're starting from.
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2. Keep track of your credit score; obtain your score at least every 6 months.
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3. Start paying off your credit card debt.
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4. Pay off what you charge on your credit cards each month.
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5. Avoid charging any of your cards up to the limit, even if you do plan to pay it off with your next payment. Spread out your purchases among several cards.
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6. Pay your bills early - well before the due date - to ensure they get credited to you on time.
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7. Set up automatic payments through your bank account for all your credit accounts to ensure timely payments even if you're on vacation.
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8. Your debt-to-credit limit ratio should never go higher than 30% - even if you pay off what you charge each month.
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9. Have errors in your credit report corrected.
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10. Request an increase in your credit card limits.
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11. Beware of balance transferring, especially to a card with a lower limit.
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12. Send a letter to your creditors requesting that they re-age your account if you've paid at least 3 months on time and they're still listing your account as delinquent.
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13. If you're having trouble making your payments, talk to your lender.
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14. Avoid opening or closing several accounts at once.
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15. Keep old credit accounts open. Closing them will reduce your available credit amount, raise your debt-to-limit ratio, and take away positive points for having an aged account in good standing. Keep these aged accounts active by using them every few months.
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16. Maintain a mix of installment loans and credit cards.
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17. Get at least one of the major credit cards: MasterCard, Visa, Discover, or American Express.
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18. If you're shopping for a house, car, or other item that requires financing, try to get all inquiries to your credit to occur within a two-week period.
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19. Take out a small personal loan and repay it over the year.
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20. If your score is low, get a secured MasterCard or Visa and build your credit with that.
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21. Pay off small disputes rather than having them sent to collections.
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22. Don't give up! Raising your score takes time.
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