

CREDIT SCORE

Your credit score is a three digit number that reflects how well you've managed your finances. Most credit scores are between 300 and 850. **What's your score?**

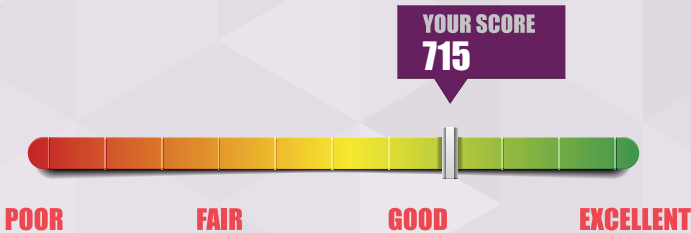
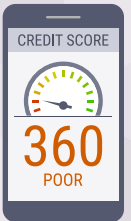


How is your credit score used?

Lenders, landlords and employers will check your credit score when you apply for a loan, a rental property, or a job. They want to see how you've managed your expenses in the past to know what kind of risk they're taking.

Those with higher scores are more likely to get approved for a loan or credit card and get the best interest rate available.

Those with lower scores could be denied or charged a higher interest rate.



How is your credit score calculated?

Types of Credit

Having a good mix of credit accounts including credit cards, retail accounts, vehicle loans, and home mortgages will most likely boost your score.



Payment History

This is one of the most significant components making up your credit score, because it shows lenders your track record for making payments on time.



New Credit

Opening a lot of credit cards or loans in a short amount of time may have a negative effect on your credit score because you may look risky to lenders.



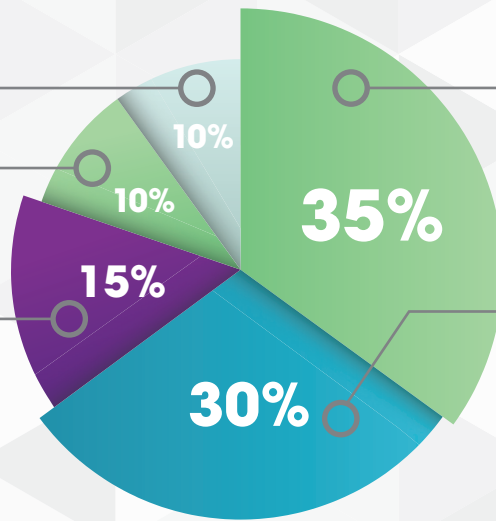
Amounts Owed

Also known as **capacity**, this is how much of your available credit you have used. The less you use the better. Try not to use more than 15% or 20% of your credit limits to keep your score high.



Length of Credit History

A long history of good credit habits raises your score.



Altra
Federal Credit Union

You can request one free credit report each year from the three major credit bureaus: **TransUnion**, **Equifax**, and **Experian**. Visit www.annualcreditreport.com to request yours! While you won't see your score, it is important to check for mistakes, bills you never knew about, or fraud.