

## Small Steps Build Credit

When you get started on your own financially, the world can seem like a very restrictive place. Everywhere you turn, you get refused for not having sufficient credit — or any credit at all — to obtain financing or a wide number of things that are based on credit. It can simply seem ridiculously unfair for those who are unexperienced. They find themselves roped up and at a loss when it comes to not only getting loans, but also establishing credit.

Credit isn't just important for getting low interest rates for mortgages or automotive financing. It also affects your qualifications for employment, your ability to obtain an apartment, cell phone service, and insurance premiums. If you don't have credit, it may just seem impossible to deal with any of these things. Worse yet, it's these sort of opportunities which build credit, adding to feelings of frustration and consternation. When you have nowhere to go to obtain credit lines in order to build credit, what does a person do?

Credit doesn't just start at the top. In order to get your credit score going, you have to start with small efforts and work your way towards bigger things. The first thing you'll want to do before anything else is obtain a credit report. It may seem silly to get a credit report when you don't have any credit, but it's actually a wise move. This allows you to examine your history and see if you truly are starting off with a clean slate. On rare occasions, your credit can end up mixed with someone else's. Often this happens because of events within the family, or because you didn't know about how sharing a bank account or a credit card with someone affected you. Whatever the case may be, it's always a good idea to make sure that your slate is clean before building the beginnings of good credit.

The next thing to do is to open a savings and checking account. This lets you save money and develop a sense of trust with lenders. They look at a bank account as a sign of dependability — especially when it has considerable savings. If you want to have the first mark of good credit, save up an amount close to a grand and then request from your bank a loan equal to or less than that amount. If they see that you have the money already, then they'll more than likely give you that loan. Just make certain to pay it back on time, and you'll be started off with your first positive credit score.

With this, you can work your way towards obtaining a credit card, which is one of the big golden opportunities for building credit fast. However, even with no credit, you can apply for other forms of cards. If you're a student, it's easy to obtain a [student credit card](#). Outside of school, there are [secured credit cards](#) which require you to make a deposit equal to your spending limit. You should approach these kind of cards with caution; they can be often presented by unscrupulous companies that charge exorbitant penalties and fines for all sorts of term breaches that you'll have to carefully consider before acquiring your first card.

Getting credit may seem daunting at first, but you have to take it slow and make a few small efforts before you get the ball rolling. Once you've developed some good credit, all it takes is continued diligence and responsibility to see yourself towards a great credit score.