

HOW TO INCREASE YOUR CREDIT SCORE:

If you haven't already, you can go to (www.annualcreditreport.com) to Obtain a Free Credit Report & it won't hurt/ding your credit. It will not show you a FICO score, but it will give you valuable info about your payment history on every account you have – this will help you prevent identity theft, which can be a subtle killer regarding your credit. Don't use that other one that you see on TV because they will charge you a monthly fee if you forget to cancel their service after the 1st free credit report they send you.

Increasing your credit score quickly isn't that easy, but isn't impossible either. Knowing what makes up a credit score helps:

- Payment history - 35%
- Amounts owed/Types of Credit Used - 30%
- Length of credit history - 15%
- New credit - 10%
- Types of credit used - 10%

So,

- Pay Bills As Agreed
- Most Recent 6 Months is what counts the highest
- Keep Balances As Low As Possible
- Highest Weight On Highest Pay History is Mortgage as Biggest Payment
- Longer Credit History = Higher Credit Score
- Long Credit History Paid As Agreed/Positive Impact To Credit Score
- Never Close Credit Accounts – Especially If Long History – May Negatively Impact credit score
- Outstanding Balance Versus Available Credit Affects Credit Score

For example:

If your Visa balance is \$10,000 and your available credit is \$10,000, then, you're better off than if your Visa balance was a \$0 & your available credit was \$10,000.

- Leave Credit Card Balance As Is = Lower Credit Score
- Spread Balance Between Cards (\$5,000 each) = Higher Credit Score

Okay, that said, hopefully a better understanding of it all, the following are tips on How Can you can Increase your Credit Score by 100 Points in 45 Days:

Pay All Accounts That Are Past Due

- Past Due Accounts Can = 1 Day Late
- They Severely Hurt Credit Score
- Past Due Accounts Do Not Include Judgments or Collection Accounts
- 1 missed payment can decrease your credit score by up to 60 points
- 1 missed payment & a bankruptcy can decrease your credit score by up to 170 points

Have Late Payments removed & mistakes Removed

- Phone Creditor And Request Late Payments Be Removed And Mistakes Corrected
- Be Persistent – Work Your Way Up The Ladder
- Always Get A Letter That Documents:

Name/Address/Account Number

Specific Late To Be Removed or Mistake Corrected
On Company Letterhead --Signed By Employee

Increase Credit Limits

- Every Six Months Request An Increase To Credit Limit On Credit Accounts
- Have Creditor Base Increase On Credit History
- If Creditor Must Pull Credit, Do Not Continue; Will Lower Credit Score

BECOME AN AUTHORIZED USER

- Ask A Relative Or Friend To Add You To Credit Account
- Confirm The Following Items 1st though:
Their Current Balance is Below 10% Of Limit
They have a Good Payment History
- No Risk to you As Credit Card Goes To Account Holder

Do Not Close Accounts

- Keep All Accounts Open
- Use Old Accounts Periodically – Charge Small Amount - Pay off Immediately
- Closing Accounts With A Long Credit History Will Hurt Credit Score
- Borrow When You Do Not Need It
- Keep Balance To Limit Ratio Low
- When Creditor Removes Lates, Corrects Mistakes And Provides Letter – Use credit rescore

This information has been provided compliments of Mike Platt at Prospect Mortgage.

If you or anyone you know is thinking about buying, selling, or investing in real estate, please let me know ... I value referrals and do them nationwide! Or if you know someone who'd like to pay off their mortgage in a fraction of the time, please let me know!

To receive tips and updates like this one go to:

<http://www.findhomesincharlottesville.com//cynthias-blog.asp>

click on "RSS" at the bottom of a blog, click on "subscribe to this feed", click "subscribe".

THANK YOU!

Cynthia Hash, Realtor/SRES/GRI/GREEN/CSSS/CRPS, Keller Williams Realty

FULL SERVICE REALTOR .. www.FindHomesInCharlottesville.com

GET HELP THRU CAREGIVERS LIBRARY .. www.AgingYourWay.org

ALWAYS WANTED A LOG HOME? .. www.CedarLogStructures.net

WANT TO PAY OFF YOUR HOUSE? .. www.PayOffYourHome.org

Cell: (434) 531-5351 ~ Fax: (801) 681-0286 ~ Email: hash@kw.com

Ofc: 1885 Seminole Trail, Suite 100, Charlottesville, VA 22901

Matthew 7:12 is NAR Golden Rule