## CREDIT, CREDIT SCORES, AND CREDIT CARDS

HOW YOUR CREDIT SCORE IS CALCULATED

| $35 \%$ |
| :--- |
| $30 \%$ |
| $15 \%$ |
| $10 \%$ |
| $10 \%$ |

How much do you owe?

What's the length of your credit history?
How many accounts have you opened recently?
What types of credit do you use?

KNOW WHERE YOU STAND


The average credit score in the U.S. is 714.

## DEFINITIONS

Credit: A contract agreement in which a borrower receives a sum of money or something of value and repays the lender at a later date, generally with interest.

APR (Annual Percentage Rate): The amount of interest a cardholder pays in a year in addition to the to the regular balance. APR can be either fixed or variable.

Fixed Interest Rate: When the interest you are charged on borrowed money remains constant.

Interest: A charge for borrowing money, most often based on a percentage of the amount owed.

Variable Interest Rate: When the interest you are charged on borrowed money changes based on outside influences.

Credit Limit: The maximum amount of money you are allowed to borrow.

Grace Period: The time between your purchase and the point when you start having to pay interest on the amount you borrowed.

Minimum Payment: Credit cards typically demand you pay a minimum amount of money on what you owe each month. Remember, though, you will be charged interest on the amount of money you don't pay.

Annual Fee: Many credit cards, particularly those that offer rewards like airline miles, charge an annual fee to use the card. This is important to pay attention to, as the fee can actually be more than any rewards you might be able to use.

## MORTGAGE LOAN / DIFFERENT CREDIT SCORES

|  | Applicant One | Applicant Two |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Credit Score: | 800 | 640 |
| Interest Rate: | 5\% | 6\% |
| Monthly Payment | \$1,610 | \$1,799 |
| Total Interest Paid: | \$279,767 | \$347,515 |
| Both loans are for $\$ 300,000$ ( 30 years). The borrower with a lower credit rating will pay "only" \$189 more per month ( $\$ 67,748$ more in interest over the life of the loan). |  |  |
| HOW TO BUILD YOUR CREDIT |  |  |
| Open a student or beginner credit card (must be 18) |  |  |
| . Make payments on time |  |  |
| . Pay at least the minimum (try to pay in full!) |  |  |
| . Keep your credit utilization below 30\% |  |  |
| , Don't apply for multiple accounts close together |  |  |
| . Keep credit card accounts open |  |  |

## TYPES OF CREDIT

Revolving - No fixed number of payments

- Credit cards
- Home equity lines of credit

Installment - Set number of scheduled payments

- Auto loans
- Mortgages
- Student loans

Open - Use what you need, pay in full monthly

- Cell phone
- Utilities (water, electricity, natural gas)


## AMORTIZATION

Amortization schedules are used by lenders, such as banks, to present a loan repayment schedule based on a specific maturity date. Part of each payment goes toward the loan principal, and part goes to interest.

| Date | Principal | Interest | Balance |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | ---: |
| May-23 | 64.40 | 41.67 | 9,936 |
| Jun-23 | 64.67 | 41.40 | 9,871 |
| Jul-23 | 64.94 | 41.13 | 9,806 |
| Aug-23 | 65.21 | 40.86 | 9,741 |
| Sep-23 | 65.48 | 40.59 | 9,675 |
| Oct-23 | 65.75 | 40.31 | 9,610 |
| Nov-23 | 66.03 | 40.04 | 9,544 |
| Dec-23 | 66.30 | 39.76 | 9,477 |
| Jan-24 | 66.58 | 39.49 | 9,411 |
| Feb-24 | 66.85 | 39.21 | 9,344 |
| Mar-24 | 67.13 | 38.93 | 9,277 |
| Apr-24 | 67.41 | 38.65 | 9,209 |

EIGHT YEARS LATER....

| May-32 | 100.90 | 5.16 | 1,138 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Jun-32 | 101.32 | 4.74 | 1,037 |
| Jul-32 | 101.75 | 4.32 | 935 |
| Aug-32 | 102.17 | 3.90 | 833 |
| Sep-32 | 102.60 | 3.47 | 730 |
| Oct-32 | 103.02 | 3.04 | 627 |
| Nov-32 | 103.45 | 2.61 | 524 |
| Dec-32 | 103.88 | 2.18 | 420 |
| Jan-33 | 104.32 | 1.75 | 316 |
| Feb-33 | 104.75 | 1.31 | 211 |
| Mar-33 | 105.19 | 0.88 | 106 |
| Apr-33 | 105.63 | 0.44 | $(0)$ |

Total Principal Paid: \$10,000
Total Interest Paid: \$2,728
Total Number of Payments: 120

