

DeFi Security Audit Checklist

Professional Risk Assessment

Protocol Due Diligence

Before investing in any DeFi protocol, consider the following checklist:

[] Smart Contract Audits

- Check for audits by reputable firms:
 - * Trail of Bits, ConsenSys Diligence, CertiK
 - * CertiK, Quantstamp, PeckShield
- Review audit reports for critical/high severity findings
- Verify audits are recent (within 6 months)

[] Protocol Track Record

- Time in production: Minimum 6 months
- Total Value Locked (TVL): Higher generally indicates stability
- History of exploits or bugs: Check past audit reports
- Bug bounty program: Active program

[] Team and Governance

- Team transparency: Known vs anonymous
- GitHub activity: Regular commits and pull requests
- Community engagement: Active Discord, Twitter, etc.
- Governance model: Decentralization levels

[] Smart Contract Analysis

- Code is open source and verified on Etherscan
- Admin keys and upgrade mechanisms
- Timelock on sensitive functions (24-48 hours)
- Multi-sig requirements for critical operations

Wallet Security Best Practices

[] Hardware Wallet Usage

- Use Ledger or Trezor for significant holdings
- Never share seed phrase or private keys
- Store seed phrase physically in secure locations
- Consider multi-location backup strategies

Transaction Security Checklist

[] Pre-Transaction Verification

- Double-check recipient address
- Verify contract address on official documentation
- Review transaction details in wallet before signing
- Check gas fees are reasonable for network conditions
- Use simulation tools (Tenderly, Blocknative)

[] Token Approval Management

- Only approve necessary token amounts
- Revoke unlimited approvals after transactions
- Regularly audit approvals using Etherscan or Revoke.cash
- Never approve untrusted or new contracts

Ongoing Monitoring and Maintenance

[] Position Monitoring

- Set price alerts for liquidation levels
- Monitor collateralization ratios daily
- Track protocol TVL and stability
- Watch for governance proposals affecting positions

[] Security Tools to Use

- DeFi Safety: Protocol safety ratings
- Revoke.cash: Manage token approvals
- Etherscan: Verify contracts and transactions
- MetaMask transaction insights
- Wallet Guard: Phishing protection

Red Flags to Avoid

NEVER invest in protocols with these characteristics:

- X No smart contract audit from reputable firm
- X Anonymous team with no track record
- X Unrealistic APY promises (>1000%)
- X Closed-source or unverified contracts
- X Less than \$1M TVL for new protocols
- X Heavy marketing focus with little technical detail
- X Copying code from other projects without audit
- X Centralized control without transparency

Emergency Response Plan

If you suspect a security breach:

1. Immediately move funds to secure wallet
2. Revoke all token approvals for affected contracts
3. Document all transactions and evidence