CREDIT AND CREDIT SCORES

Before you get started, take this **QUIZ** to see how much you know about credits and credit

scores. It won't take long—but the knowledge can go a long way toward improving your score.

FICO stands for the Fair Isaac Corporation. FICO was a pioneer in developing a method for

calculating credit scores based on information collected by credit reporting agencies. FICO is not

the only type of credit score, but it is one of the most common measurements lenders use to

determine the risk involved in doing business with a borrower.

What is a Credit Score: **Here**

A credit score is a prediction of your credit behavior, such as how likely you are to pay a loan

back on time, based on information from your credit reports.

You can also learn more about credit scores, credit reports, and factors that impact your credit

score.

What is a Good Credit Score: Here

On the site, you will learn about different types of credit scores, and why having a good credit

score is important. You will also learn different ways to improve your credit scores that would

make you eligible for making purchases like houses, and cars.

How is a Credit Score Calculated: Here

Ever wondered how your score is, your credit score, which commonly refers to your FICO score, is calculated based on five factors: payment history, amount owed, length of credit history, new credit, and credit mix.

How to Maintain a Good Credit Score: Here

Your credit history reflects how you've managed debt in the past. And that history shows up through your credit scores—three-digit numbers that summarize the information in your credit reports.

How to keep track of your credit report: Here

Your credit report is an important part of your financial life. It can determine whether you can get credit, how good or bad the terms for getting credit are, and how much it costs you to borrow money. Learn how to get your free credit report — and why it's a good idea.

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Feel free to use this credit score simulator. <u>The Credit Score Simulator</u> is an educational tool. Explore, adjust, and ponder, but just remember that these are estimated outcomes and not predictions.