Paypal Problems

How to deal with account limitation and explore your other options



Did Paypal limit your account for no reason?

Or maybe they accused you of something you were not guilty of?

Either way, they suck. This FAQ is meant to help answer some of the most commonly asked questions I receive regarding Paypal account limitation and how to fix it.

Here are a few of the most common questions I get...

Q: Can I delete my limited Paypal account?

A: No, Paypal will not allow you to delete your account once it has been permanently limited.

Q: Can I create a new Paypal account using the same email address?

A: No, you cannot use the same email address to create a new Paypal account. You will need to create a brand new email that is not associated with your limited account.

Q: Can I use the same phone number for my new Paypal account?

A: No, you should not use the same phone number when creating a new account. You want to use all new information, so that Paypal does not link your new account with your other limited account. To obtain a new phone number, sign up for Google Voice and request a new number.

Q: Will Paypal track my IP address and block my new account if I use the same computer?

A: In my experience, it shouldn't matter much if you are using the same IP address to create your new account. However, as a precaution, I suggest using Google Chrome when creating and logging into your new Paypal account, since you can use the "Incognito" feature to browse the web anonymously.

Q: Can I use the same address for my new Paypal account?

A: No, you should try not to use the same address when creating a fresh account. I realize this presents a problem for eBay sellers who need to use their shipping address, etc. If at all possible, use the address of a friend or family member when signing up for a new Paypal account.

Q: Is it safe to link my new Paypal account with my existing eBay account?

A: Although I am not 100% certain on this one, I believe it should work to unlink your limited Paypal account from eBay, and then link your new account once you have successfully verified it.

Another Workaround for Paypal Limitation

Step #1: Choose a close friend or relative who doesn't mind if you use their information to order a free prepaid debit card

Step #2: Go to Netspend/Rushcard or some other prepaid card provider and sign up for a new account with your chosen contact's information (they can also do this, if they prefer)

Step #3: When signing up for your new prepaid card, be sure to use YOUR address so that the card is mailed to you

Step #4: After you receive the card in the mail, go online to activate it

Step #5: Login to your prepaid debit card account online and look for an option to edit your personal information or update your profile

Step #6: Change your billing address to an old residence (this won't matter since everything is done online)

Step #7: Once your address is changed, go to Paypal and sign up byfor a new account using your contacts information and then add the prepaid card to your new account (just be sure to use the same old address that you chose for your debit card account)

Tips and suggestions:

- 1) When signing up for the debit card, you will need the social security number of the person who's name you are using (I used my husband's name and SSN).
- **2)** NEVER give Paypal a SSN to verify the account, since this is not necessary and it will make it easier for them to identify you and limit your account in the future, should anything go wrong.
- **3)** If you are making a purchase on a site that only accepts Paypal and you need to have the item shipped to you, simply choose "do not have a paypal account" when you go to place your order.

What you should do is login to Netspend and click on "virtual accounts," which will generate a non-physical card number for you to use (with new expiration date and three digit confirmation number).

Use this to pay for the shippable item instead of using your Paypal account (with the other address). Just be sure to specify a different shipping address when given the option.

4) If you have had your own Paypal limited and you used a Netspend debit card as well, then don't forget you can easily transfer funds from one cardholder account to another (example: putting funds from my Netspend card onto my husband's new card in order to use it for Paypal) as an easy solution for continuing to use your debit card for Paypal transactions.

Rushcard also offers card to card transfers (though they charge 1.00 per transfer and limit you to \$2,000/month).

12 Awesome Paypal Resources

I have spent hours researching the web for the most valuable links and resources for Paypal and account limitation. The following list of links are my top picks and I highly recommend that you take a moment to check them out if you are still struggling with Paypal limitation.

- 1. PaypalSucks
- 2. Paypal Warning
- 3. About Paypal
- 4. Screw-Paypal.com
- 5. Paypal Review by LifeHacker
- 6. The Dangers of Using Paypal
- 7. Paypal Threads from WarriorForum.com
- 8. <u>How I Convinced Paypal to Release My Funds</u> (an awesome blog post with excellent advice for any person who Paypal is refusing to release funds to)
- 9. Fuck You, Paypal (from the Regretsy blog)
- 10. <u>eBay Suspension Forum</u> (priceless resource)
- 11. Paypal Buddy
- 12. Paypal Jailbreak

Have You Been Scammed by Paypal?

You're not alone. Paypal has one of the worst track records in the industry of online payment processors. Ironically, it's also monopolized said industry and is subsequently considered the leader in online payments.

However, that hardly means they are a legitimate business. But I'll let you decide for yourself...I have done my best to search high and low for all the consumer review and complaint sites I could find which feature reviews of Paypal from both sellers and buyers.

- <u>PissedConsumer</u> 128 complaints submitted by Paypal buyers and sellers.
- RipoffReport has received approximately 3,070 complaints for Paypal, Inc.
- ConsumerAffairs currently claims to have 173 buyer complaints and 311 seller complaints.

ConsumerAffairs.com has separate categories for buyer and seller complaints about Paypal. Currently, it claims to have 173 buyer complaints and 311 seller complaints. It's important to note that they also feature several smaller sub-categories for types of complaints related to Paypal, Inc.

89% of buyers who submitted Paypal complaints on this site rated their overall satisfaction as being one star out of five.

Similarly, an overwhelming 91% of sellers who submitted complaints on this site rated their overall satisfaction as being one star out of five as well.

• <u>Customer Service Board</u> - ranks Paypal's customer service as #240 out of the 553 companies profiled on their website with an overall score of 39.14 out of a possible 200.

CustomerServiceScoreBoard.com ranks Paypal's customer service as #240 out of the 553 companies profiled on their website with an overall score of 39.14 out of a possible 200. These numbers are based on 247 ratings submitted to the site.

219 comments received about Paypal's customer service were negative, while only 28 were reported as being positive.

In the end, this site categorized their customer service as "Disappointing," which is only one step up from the "Terrible" group of companies included on their site.

- <u>Complaints Board</u> appears to list 200 complaints submitted for Paypal, Inc.
- <u>ScamBook</u> lists 87 complaints for Paypal, Inc. and claims \$134,551.15 in damages as a result of said complaints.

It also lists zero as the number of resolutions currently on file for the company on their

site.

- <u>GripeVines</u> has devoted an entire section to complaints posted about eBay & Paypal, Inc. and lists a total of 640 posts within this section of their forum.
- <u>Screwed by Forums</u> lists 15 total complaints posted for Paypal, Inc.

Important Paypal Questions From Readers

I have received tons of questions about how to create a new, verified Paypal account since I released my free Paypal Limited Account Fix guide.

While I don't have time to respond to each individual question I get swamped with, I wanted to share with you a couple of my replies to questions sent by readers that I think are the most important issues to address when setting up your new account.

#1: Question About Verifying Paypal Using Netspend Debit Card

Mark wrote me with the following question:

"Hey all, Could you tell me what I am doing wrong? I activated Netspend and this is the message I get from Paypal.

This credit card has been denied by the bank that issued your credit card. For details on why your card was denied, please contact your credit card issuer's customer service department. Or, you may want to try adding a different credit card.

Thanks in advance."

Here is my response:

"Thanks for asking this important question. What you need to do is fund your Netspend card FIRST, BEFORE you try using it to verify your new Paypal account.

The reason for this is that Paypal charges a \$1.95 verification fee to make sure the card is yours. Once the process is completed, Paypal refunds the amount within 24-48 hours or so. But you need to have at least that much loaded onto the card before it will work.

Hope this helps."

#2: Question About What Address to Use for Your New Paypal

Karl wrote me with the following question:

"Hi there!

Yeah I did it...i made up new address and new paypal with my name...slightly changed. they limited account but they want my BANK DETAIS in order to lift it.

I ordered a prepaid card (which is coming soon) I have a new address new name new email... but prepaid card is going to be send on my real address.

I'm going to find out if I can change after few days for my fake address and then activate my paypal with fake address both on cards. Do you think that should work?

I dont want to activate my account when my billing address on prepaid card will be my real address which is limited to my previous account. Do you know anything about this?

what address should be on my new prepaid cards? I assume its the new one... the same as on fake paypal account?

Would appreciate your advice!"

Here is my response:

"When your prepaid card arrives in the mail, activate it and log into your account. Look for an option to edit or change your personal info/address. Once you've found it, change it to the fake address you used to create the new Paypal account.

The nice thing about this is that Paypal doesn't send you anything in the mail normally, so it won't matter if the address is your real one.

Just make sure you don't try to verify your new Paypal account UNTIL you have edited your address for your prepaid card first!!! Be careful not to match up any of the information from your limited account."

Tips for Protecting Your Paypal Account

Did you get your new Paypal account up and running after reading my Squidoo tutorial? I am here to help you out if you run into trouble along the way, so feel free to reply to this email if you need further assistance.

I can't answer every single email I receive, but I do my best to answer the questions I can offer help with and I often address others in emails I send out to my list.

Just to make sure you understand, my tutorial isn't fool proof. There is no way to guarantee that Paypal will not catch on to the similarities in your new account and possibly limit your new one for life as well.

In fact, when I was fine tuning my method, it happened to me a couple different times.

Since it does become a little trickier to pull off each time you have to start over, I thought I'd share with you some of the most practical tips for keeping your new account safe.

You may be surprised by what type of account activities throw up a red flag in Paypal's system!

Avoid large transactions whenever possible.

This is one of the most well known triggers that Paypal uses to freeze accounts, so you would be wise to break up any large payments into smaller amounts when you receive money (or send, though it's not as important).

One way to do this if you sell services is to take half payment upfront and accept the other half when you've provided the services to your customer. This not only makes the amounts smaller, but also spaces out the payments to make it appear more normal and less suspicious.

The less they know, the better off you are.

I mentioned this point in the tutorial more than once, but it bears repeating again here since it does encompass a lot and some people may not realize how important it actually is to keep your personal information from Paypal at all costs.

If they ask you to verify your account using photo ID, proof of address or anything else that identifies you, this will result in an automatic limitation of your new account. They won't allow you to appeal it. So avoid these things at all costs.

This also means you should never use your SSN # to verify your account when you open it. Instead, use your prepaid debit card from Netspend or the provider of your choice.

This will prevent Paypal from knowing your true identity and it makes it harder for them to detect your new account and link it with the old one.

Be wary of the "Acceptable Use Policy."

This Paypal policy is by far the most bull shit infested of documents on their website. It has incredibly vague and meaningless "prohibited" items that Paypal cannot be used to process payments for.

Whatever they define as being "sexual" or "adult" in nature could literally be anything and your guess is probably as good as mine. Ironically, they have an "adult" category when signing up for a business account. Yet they don't allow adult products.

Does this make sense to you...? Yeah, me neither.

The point is, err on the side of caution with these idiots because they will fuck you without a second thought and say that you violated the TOS or the "Acceptable Use" policy, which doesn't at all explain what is acceptable.

5 Reasons to Use Netspend With Paypal

Are you already using your prepaid <u>Netspend</u> card for your Paypal account? If so, congrats! If you haven't already linked your new Netspend card with your Paypal account, here are 5 great reasons to get it setup today!

- 1. Netspend provides you with an account number and routing number which you can use to verify your new Paypal account!
- 2. You can use your Netspend account to successfully withdraw funds from Paypal (3-5 business days to transfer funds)
- 3. Netspend offers FREE cardholder transfers which allow you to immediately transfer funds between Netspend accounts!
- 4. Sign up for FREE direct deposit to automatically load your paycheck onto your Netspend card (this can also be used for any scheduled online payments you receive each month).
- 5. Outstanding customer service and support! I've contacted customer service on more than one occasion and they've never let me down. Netspend Corporation is accredited with the Better Business Bureau and has a rating of A+.

Sound like a good deal? <u>Click here</u> to learn more about the benefits of using Netspend for your new Paypal account.

My First Experience Using Dwolla

I recently discovered a new Paypal alternative called <u>Dwolla</u>. I did some research and decided to sign up for a free account so I could give it a try.

I was pleasantly surprised by how AWESOME it is in comparison to Paypal. I wanted to take a moment or two to share my initial thoughts and tell you a little bit about it.

What Is Dwolla, Exactly?

Dwolla is an online payment system that is currently limited to US residents only. Users can sign up for a free account, which will allow them to make payments and receive money from other account holders, using a computer or mobile device.

How Much Does It Cost?

This is probably the most exciting thing about Dwolla --- the fees! All transactions under \$10 are absolutely free of charge. Amounts greater than \$10 are processed for a flat fee of only 25 cents. Can you believe that?!

How Does It Work?

Dwolla is very unique because it does not require anyone to use a debit OR credit card in order to make or receive payments! That's right. Dwolla is a card-free zone! Instead, users are asked to link their accounts with a valid US bank account by providing their account and routing numbers. Once Dwolla makes a small deposit into your account, you simply log in and enter the amount that shows up in your bank account, and your account is verified and ready to use!

Do Both the Sender and Receiver Need to Have Dwolla Accounts to Send Money?

Basically the answer to this is yes. But there is no reason that your customers should object to signing up for a free account. In fact, I recommend taking full advantage of the low fees that Dwolla offers by creating a special promotional campaign specifically designed to convince your customers that it's worth trying.

How Do I Persuade My Customers to Start Using Dwolla?

The best way to do this is to take a look at the hefty and oftentimes ridiculous fees that Paypal charges simply to process payments. Go back in your account history and add up all the Paypal fees within a one month period and find the total you paid just to process your transactions.

Now, use those numbers to figure out how much of a discount you can afford to offer your customers if they are willing to sign up for a free Dwolla account and take it for a test run the next time they are ready to make a purchase on your website. See what I mean?

Personally, I think everyone should run a special promotion to grow Dwolla's user base and get it the recognition it deserves.

My experience so far has been amazing and it's about time that someone challenge Paypal's monopoly in the online payments arena. Let's give them some true competition, shall we?

Payoneer Prepaid Debit Cards

Have you guys heard of Payoneer debit cards? I just wanted to take a moment to share my experience with them since I signed up.

I needed a Payoneer account so I could accept payments from sites such as eLance (for freelance writing work) and also on ExtraLunchMoney.com (an adult themed site which can't use Paypal). I just added my Tradebit account as well, so I can withdraw funds for the downloads I sell on that site as well.

Payoneer has tons of partner sites that send out payments using the service!

So far, my experience using my prepaid Payoneer debit card has been quite positive. They have reasonably low fees and rates and the coolest thing about the card...?

ANYONE in the world can send you money with Payoneer. They don't have to be a Payoneer card holder and they can pay you using either a credit card OR a bank account!

Sign up through my referral link and earn a **free \$25 bonus** once your card has been loaded with the first \$100!

Don't Forget About Amazon Payments

Did you know that you can accept payments online for digital goods and services using <u>Amazon Payments</u>?

Yep, it's true. Amazon Payments is simple and easy to use for anyone with an Amazon account. You simply link your bank account or debit card (prepaid is fine, Netspend works with this) and setup payment buttons for your website.

When you receive payments through Amazon, all you have to do is withdraw the funds to your prepaid card or bank account and the transfer will be complete in 3-5 business days (usually only 2 or 3, in my experience). Same waiting time as Paypal transfers.

Amazon Payments is a great alternative to Paypal and is oftentimes overlooked entirely. But it has all the same functionality and offers the same instant brand recognition that Paypal enjoys with its wide user base.

Nice thing is that anyone with an Amazon account probably already has a debit or credit card associated with their account, for making purchases on the site. That makes it even easier for them to send payments to YOU for whatever you are selling online.

Beautiful concept, don't you think?

Accept Online Payments Using Payza

Well, actually...if you were familiar with AlertPay, then you won't need much of an introduction. AlertPay has been rebranded as Payza, a viable payment processor that is free to sign up with and will allow you to accept credit card payments on your website!

Getting setup on Payza is very similar to the setup process Paypal uses. You want to sign up for a personal pro account, and then you can add your domains and products.

Each website you want to sell products or services on using Payza must be manually reviewed by their staff. This should only take a couple of days and I had no problem getting approved to accept payments for my freelance writing services.

Once your site is approved, you can generate "buy now" or "pay now" buttons for each product/service, just like you can with Paypal. Payza will generate an HTML code for you to copy and paste in your website where you want the button to appear.

If you have used Paypal in the past, switching over to Payza should be a breeze! I have used them to cash out on sites like ExtraLunchMoney.com and others, so I know they are legit and I can personally vouch for them.

You have nothing to lose, give it a try today by clicking the signup link below!

Send and receive money online with Payza.

<u>Introducing Stripe - a New Payment Startup</u>

I just wanted to share a few helpful links that I recently stumbled upon and tell you about yet another new startup that is making it easier to accept credit cards online without having to use Paypal.

This new service is called <u>Stripe</u>, and it's pretty simple. The only downside is that you are required to purchase a SSL (secure socket layer) certificate to handle your customer's sensitive data when they buy from your website.

This will cost around \$50 to have installed on your site, depending on your hosting provider. But honestly, it sounds as if it would be WELL worth the investment. Why is that, you ask? Because Stripe does not charge ANY fees for transferring your funds to a bank account.

That's right, no fees for transfers! Hell of a lot better deal than Paypal. The fee per successful

credit card transaction is a flat rate of 2.9% + 0.30 cents. That means that if you sell a product on your site for \$30, then you end up keeping \$28.83!

Pretty sweet, right?

If you want to learn more about Stripe and how to get started (setup takes five minutes), then I highly recommend taking a few minutes to read the following articles and tutorials:

- Make it Easy to Accept Payments Online With Stripe
- So You Want to Accept Credit Cards Online?

Also, I found this great list of other <u>new alternatives to Paypal</u> from the past year...