

# How to Buy Crypto Safely

Follow this checklist to protect yourself when buying cryptocurrency.

## **Before choosing an exchange:**

- Verify the platform is registered with FinCEN as a Money Service Business
- Check that it's been operating for several years without major security breaches
- Confirm it uses cold storage for customer funds (most reputable exchanges do)

## **During account setup:**

- Enable two-factor authentication (2FA) immediately after creating your account
- Use a strong, unique password that you don't use elsewhere
- Verify your identity only through the official website or app, never through email links

## **When making your first purchase:**

- Start with a small amount (\$10–\$25) to test the platform
- Double-check the wallet address if transferring funds
- Save confirmation emails and transaction IDs for your records

## **After buying:**

- Set up withdrawal confirmations and device management if available
- Consider moving larger amounts to a personal wallet once you're comfortable
- Never share your login credentials or respond to unsolicited crypto offers