



# ETHEREUM

## What is Cryptocurrency?

Part of the Ethereum 101 Series

[www.ethereum.org](http://www.ethereum.org)

# CRYPTOCURRENCY



Digital Money for the Internet Age.

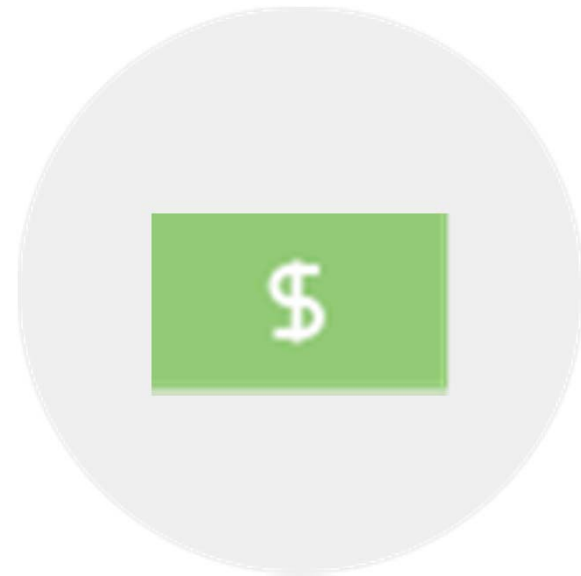
**CRYPTOGRAPHY**



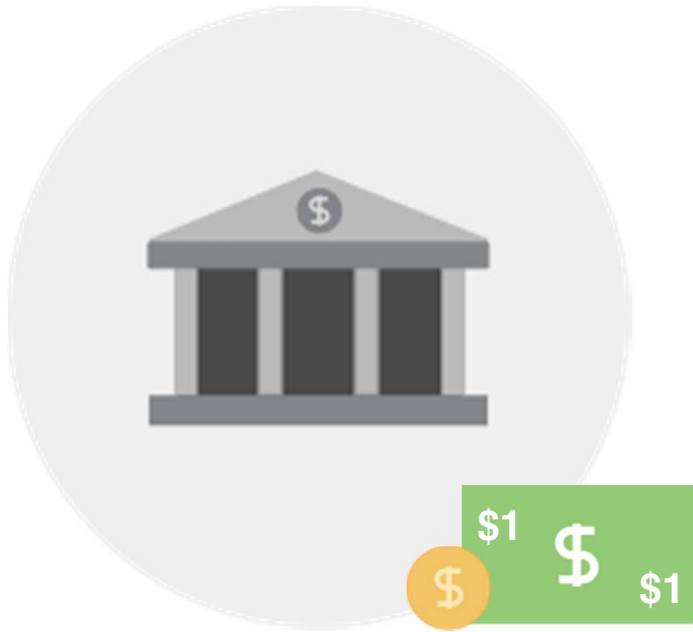
**CURRENCY**



Greek for “secret writing”



Fancy for “money”



## GOVERNMENT-BACKED CURRENCY

A centralized entity issues credit or mints coins and banknotes.

## DIGITAL MONEY

The currency is generated and distributed by the network to users.



# **“THE NETWORK”**

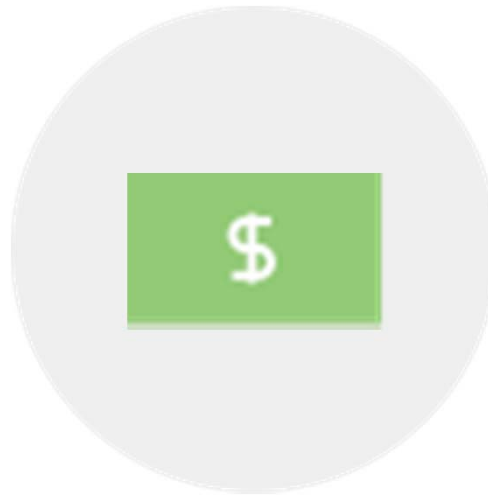


The aggregate of nodes running the client software.

# BANKNOTES

## PROS

Unit of account  
Store of value  
Transportable



## CONS

Physical

# DIGITAL MONEY

## PROS

Secure

Highly transportable

Decentralized

## CONS

Poor store of value

High volatility



EMAIL



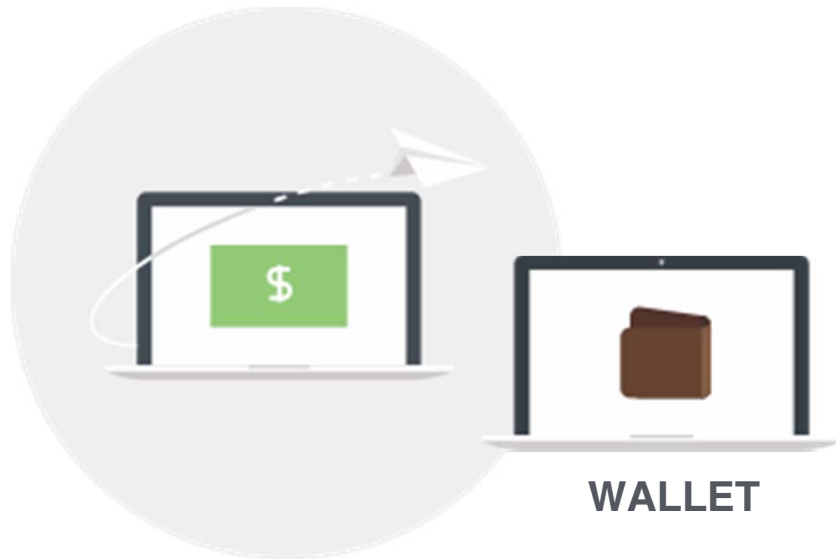
CRYPTOCURRENCY

Cryptocurrency works like email, but for money.



## EMAIL

Email allows for the sending of data such as messages and images to an inbox.



## CRYPTOCURRENCY

Cryptocurrency allows for the sending of value to a wallet.



**PASSWORD**



## **EMAIL**

Inbox secured with username & password

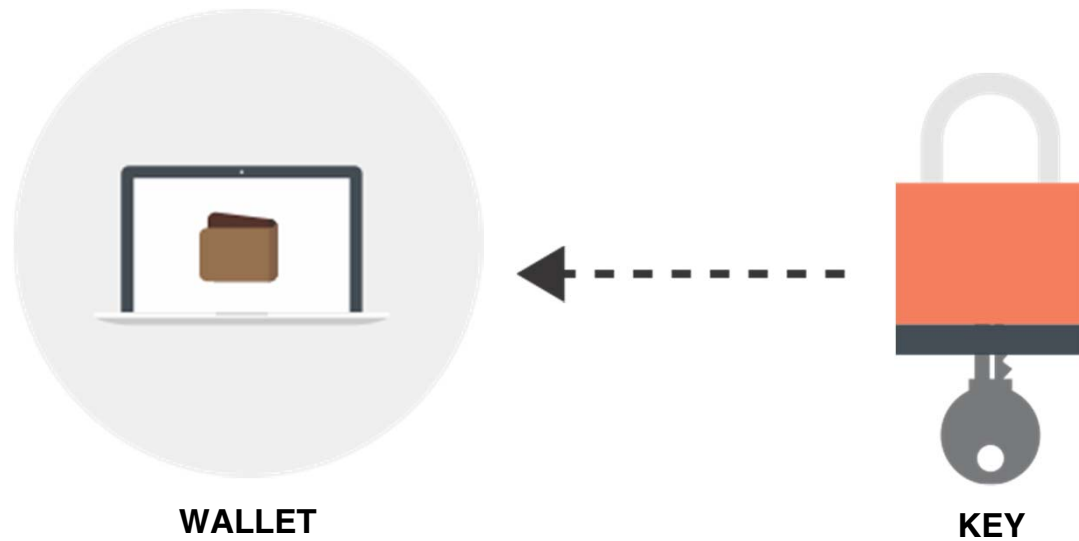
## **CRYPTOCURRENCY**

Wallet secured with key/lock pair



**KEY**





To access your wallet you use what's called a key.



How do I get cryptocurrency?