

IDENTITY THEFT

Someone gets your personal information and runs up charges in your name. They might use your Social Security or Medicare number, your credit card, or your medical insurance - along with your good name.

Here are signs that someone is using your identity:

- You get bills for things you didn't buy or services you didn't use.
- Your bank account has withdrawals you didn't make. You don't get bills you expect.
- You check your credit report and find accounts you never knew about.



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Here's what you can do to help protect from IDENTITY THEFT:

- Protect your information:
 - Shred documents before you throw them out,
 - Give your Social Security number only when you must,
 - Use strong passwords online.
- Check your monthly statements and your credit: Read your account statements and explanations of benefits. Be sure you recognize what they show.
- Once a year, get a FREE copy of your credit report: You can do so by going online to AnnualCreditReport.com or by calling 1-877-322-8228. The law entitles you to one free report each year from each credit bureau. If you see something you don't recognize, deal with it right away.