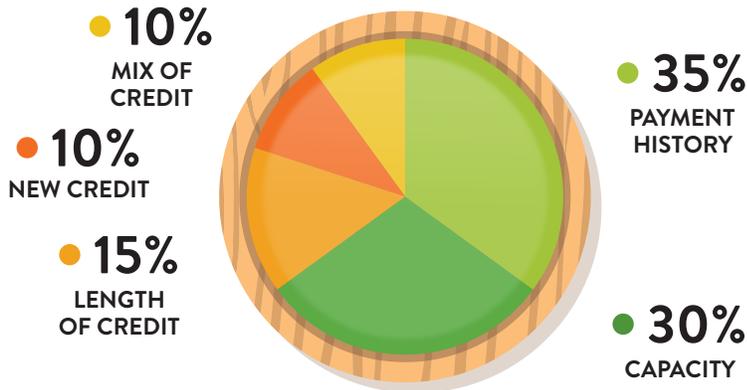


# Breakdown of a CREDIT SCORE

- IT'S A -  
**MONEY THING®**

## HOW IS A CREDIT SCORE CALCULATED?



## A CREDIT SCORE

is a number used by financial institutions and credit card companies to determine risk level when issuing you a loan or a credit card.

## STAY ON TRACK

You are entitled to free weekly credit reports from each of the major credit bureaus. Your FICO Score is not shown on the report.

→ [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com)



Set seasonal calendar reminders so you can remember to check on your credit throughout the year.

### Curious about your score?

You can get a free estimate through [creditkarma.com](http://creditkarma.com) (but know that it's not your actual credit score—it'll be close, but not exact).

### Need access to the real deal?

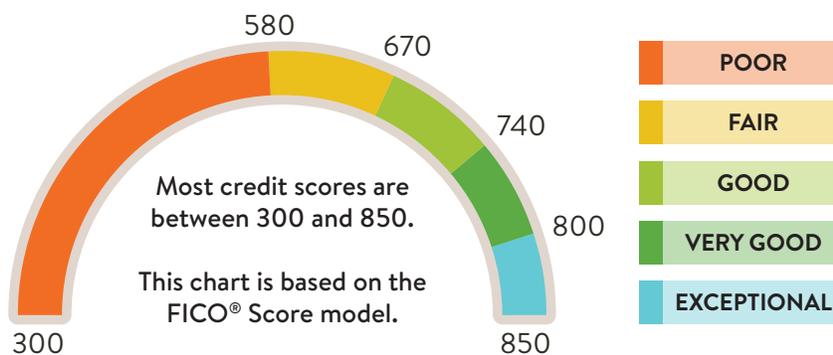
Get your actual FICO Score from [myFICO.com](http://myFICO.com) for a one-time fee or through a monthly subscription.

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## WHAT DOES YOUR CREDIT SCORE MEAN?

Actual scores may be interpreted differently, depending on the financial institution.



**<580**

A low score means you could be denied a loan or credit card.

**580-740**

You may not get turned down for a loan, but you will likely be charged a higher interest rate.

**740+**

You're in good shape. This is where you want your credit score to be.