



FACTS



MYTHS

5 Myths About Credit

1

Reviewing Your Credit Score Could Lower It

Fact: Checking your own credit score has no impact on your credit. Not only that, regularly checking your credit can be helpful when you're trying to improve your credit score.

2

A Negative Credit Score Follows You Forever

Fact: Negative events in your credit history are not permanent. Most negative credit report entries expire after seven years, including missed payments, foreclosures, or repossessions.

3

Closing Old Credit Cards Improves Your Score

Fact: If you close a credit card account while you have outstanding balances on other cards, your overall utilization rate will increase and could hurt your credit scores.

4

Carrying a Credit Card Balance Builds Credit Scores

Fact: Paying off credit card balances in full each month shows responsible account management, prevents interest charges and won't affect your credit mix. Just be sure you make purchases with the card occasionally and pay them off.

5

Debt Is Always Bad

Fact: Responsible borrowing can allow you to acquire things you couldn't otherwise afford, like a house, a college education or a car. Which in turn enable you to live a better life and can even gain value over time.