

Wells Fargo Benefits®

# How to read your credit report

A sample credit report appears below. Here's how to read it:

**Sample Credit Report**

Credit Reporting Agency  
P.O. Box 1234  
City, State Zip  
(800) 777-1234

**Sample Credit File**

**A Personal Identification Information**  
Your name Social Security #: 000-00-0000  
Current address Date of Birth: March 15, 1972  
City, State Zip

**Previous address(es)**  
1234 Oak St., Anytown, CA 92111  
4567 Grand Ave., Hometown, IL 65432

**Last Reported Employment: Truck Driver**

**B Public Record Information**  
Bankruptcy filed 3/2004: Any District Court: Case or other ID number-000AB00:  
Liabilities \$21,765: Personal: Individual: Discharged: Assets \$995

**C Collection Agency Account Information**  
Any Collection Agency (800) 000-0000  
Collection Reported 09/04: Assigned 11/04 to Any Collection Agency: Client - Top  
Department Store: Amount - \$678: Paid collection account

**D Credit Account Information**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Company Name	Account Number	Where Account	Date Opened	Months Review	Date of Last Activity	High Credit	Terms	Items as of Date Reported	Balance	Past Due	Status
Car Dealership	4502008	J	05/25	24	11/02	\$4200	\$225	\$750	\$150	J4	
Credit Card Company	55576	1	05/25	4.5	05/02	\$5000		\$0		B1	
Department Store	000432	J	02/01	8	10/02	\$750		\$0		O1	

Previous Payment History: 2 times 30 days late; 3 times 60 days late

**E Companies that Requested Your Credit File**  
06/12/01 Department Store  
02/17/04 Credit Card Company

- **Section D** shows your credit history. This is a list of all the places where you have credit — or used to have credit. These are called your accounts. The credit history section is divided into twelve columns.
  - Column 1 shows the names of your lenders. In this example you see a car dealership, a credit card company, and a department store.
  - Column 2 shows your account numbers.
  - Column 3 shows who is responsible for payment. On most credit reports, you'll see an "I" — meaning that an individual is responsible. You will see a "J" for joint if you and another person are responsible for paying.
  - Column 4 shows the month and year the account was opened.
  - Column 5 shows the number of months the payment history for this account has been reported.
  - In column 6, you'll see the date that the last payment, change, or other activity was made in this account.
  - Column 7, you'll see the highest amount that has been charged to this account, or the credit limit, if there is one.
  - Column 8 shows the amount of your monthly payments — if this is an installment loan.
  - Column 9 shows the amount you still owe as of the date of this report.
  - Column 10 shows any amount that is past due, meaning money that you're late in paying to your lender.

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- **Section A** shows your name, current and previous addresses, Social Security number, date of birth, and other information to identify you.
- **Section B** is called Public Record Information. In this area, you'll see any information that is listed about you in the records of local, state, or federal courts. In this example you see a bankruptcy.
- **Section C** shows collection agency account information. If you fail to pay back one of your creditors, they may hire a collection agency to contact you. This is a company that specializes in collecting money to pay off debts.

Together we'll go far



- Column 11 is called Status. It contains a letter and a number. The letter describes what kind of account it is:
  - “I” – installment. You make a loan payment every month for a certain period of months.
  - “R” – revolving. As you pay the money back, your credit becomes available for you to use again and again. Credit cards are an example of revolving credit
  - “O” – open. The lender gave you credit and then bills you for what you borrow.

The numbers explain how payments have been made on the account:

- 1 - the account is paid as agreed
  - 2 - the account is 30 or more days past due
  - 3 - the account is 60 or more days past due. In this credit report example, the car loan is I4. This means it’s an installment loan that’s 90 or more days past the payment due date.
- Finally, column 12 shows the date on which the information for this account was last updated.

- **Section E**, the last section of the credit report, is called Inquiries. This is a list of the companies that have requested a copy of your credit report for their review.

### **For more information**

We invite you to contact Wells Fargo for further information. Visit our website at [wellsfargo.com](http://wellsfargo.com), email us at [WellsFargoBenefits@wellsfargo.com](mailto:WellsFargoBenefits@wellsfargo.com), or call toll free 1-866-793-3047.