

# Your Credit Score

## It's not just a number

A credit score is one of the most important numbers in our financial life. Credit scores are used:

- By lenders, to determine whether you're approved for loans or credit cards, along with the interest rates and terms you get.
- By insurers, to set premiums.
- By cell phone companies, to see who qualifies for a contract and who doesn't.
- By utilities, to determine whether you need to leave a deposit and how much.
- By landlords, to decide who gets apartments and rental houses.

Failing to understand credit scores and how they work, in other words, really can put a dent in your financial life.

