

## Methods Thieves Use To Steal Your Identity

Stealing your identity isn't nearly as difficult as you might imagine. Knowledge is power, so let's have a look at the methods thieves use to steal your identity. That way you can do a better job of protecting yourself. The mail and the trash are popular spots for thieves. Curb side recycling has actually made it much easier since many people do not bother to shred their personal information. Bank statements, credit cards, telephone statements, telephone calling cards, pay stubs, credit card receipts, and any other personal and financial information that may have arrived via mail or found its way into your recycling or garbage. The trouble is the problem is much bigger than you. While you carefully make sure you never leave your mail in the mailbox, or you make sure you shred everything before disposing of it, that doesn't mean businesses do and so thieves commonly target the trash of a business, stealing all of it for sifting through later. While credit reporting agencies have become stricter about divulging information, it is still a common method for thieves who steal your identity to obtain more information. One way of protecting yourself is to not divulge all of the numbers to your credit card. It will at least slow them down a bit. Stealing ones wallet or purse is still a popular method of obtaining someone's personal information. We mistakenly think they are stealing it for the money when actually almost always that's not the case. The internet has been a real tool for thieves. They love to target through phishing email that gets you to supply personal information under a set of false pretences. They also collect information off of sites that do not use adequate security leaving your personal information including credit card data easily available. The trouble is there are just so many ways that your personal information can fall into the wrong hands. Dishonest employees can steal it, information you leave laying in the open can be picked up, telephone calls under a disguise of something legitimate, and your information can be hacked right off a government site. Now that you know the main methods thieves use to steal your identity you can do a better job of protecting yourself. Don't be afraid to say no and to not share your information unless you are confident it is safe, and be sure to check your credit report regularly because it's an excellent way to catch the criminal activity sooner.

## About the Author

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