

## Rapid Credit Boost

### Strategy 1: Payment Adjustments

1. Pay Down Credit Card Balances: Bring credit utilization on each card to 10% or less.
2. Request a Rapid Rescore: Contact creditors and ask them to report recent payments to the credit bureaus.

### Strategy 2: Credit Utilization Hacks

1. Request a Credit Limit Increase: Call your credit card issuer to increase your available credit, reducing utilization instantly.
2. Spread Balances Across Cards: Distribute debt across multiple cards to lower utilization rates on individual accounts.
3. Apply for a Debt Consolidation Loan: Combine multiple high-interest debts into a single loan with a lower interest rate to reduce credit utilization and simplify payments. This can instantly lower your revolving account balances, boosting your score. Check out Happy Money, Universal Credit, or Upgrade.

### Strategy 3: 24 Hour Inquiry Sweep

1. Remove Inquiries: Dispute hard inquiries on your credit report following this guide.

### Strategy 4: Account Optimizations

1. Add Rental Payment History: Use services like RentReporters to add up to 4 years of past rent payments to all 3 credit bureaus.
2. Report Utility Bills: Add positive payment history from utilities or phone bills using Experian Boost and/or eCredible for Transunion.
3. Ask for a "Goodwill Adjustment": Request a creditor to remove a late payment from your report as a courtesy. Use this goodwill guide.

## Strategy 5: New Credit Strategies

1. Open a Secured Credit Card: If applicable, open a secured card with a deposit (at least \$500) to improve your credit mix and utilization. Check out banks such as Discover, Capital One, CITI Mastercard, or U.S. Bank.
2. Apply for a Credit-Builder Loan: Take out a credit-builder installment or revolving account to quickly add a positive trade line.
  - a. Credit Strong
    - i. Reports up to a \$30,000 Installment
    - ii. Reports up to \$3,000 Credit Line
  - b. TomoCredit
    - i. Reports up to \$30,000 Credit Line