



## **Protect your identity**

- Never give out your personal information to someone you don't know or trust.
- Treat your personal details like you would treat money. Don't leave them lying around for others to take.
- Only give out your personal details and information if you have initiated the contact and trust the other party.

### **Shred, don't bin!**

- Destroy personal information - don't just throw it out. You should cut up, burn or shred old bills, account statements or cards so scammers cannot get hold of your personal details.
- Order a free copy of your credit report at least once a year to make sure no-one is using your name to borrow money or run up debts.
- You can get a copy of your credit report from a credit reporting agency. There are two main national credit reporting agencies in New Zealand: Veda Advantage and Dun and Bradstreet.
- When you get your credit card and bank statements check them carefully for any unauthorised transactions.

### **More information**

6 May 2010 - [\(Word of Advice\) - Protecting your privacy](#)