

# CREDIT SCORE MYTH-BUSTING

**“There’s a credit blacklist and you can’t get credit if you’re on it.”**

**False!** There is **no such thing** as a credit blacklist. Your score is based on your credit history and can be improved by **managing credit responsibly**.

**“Your credit score is affected by your family and by the previous occupants of your house.”**



**False!** This is a common myth, but credit reports and scores are individual. Your partner, your family, or previous occupants have no impact on your credit score - **unless you have taken out joint credit with them**.

**“You can’t get credit with a bad score.”**

**False!** Although, having a poor credit score may mean you have to pay higher **interest rates**. You can use this credit to improve your score.

**“Credit reference agencies decide if you get credit.”**



**False!** Credit agencies are independent organisations that hold data about your credit history, credit applications, and financial behaviour. **Providers will access this information** to decide if they want to lend to you.

**“A good salary and savings improve your credit score.”**

**False!** These can **influence affordability checks**, but not your credit score. Your credit score is affected by:

Payment History

Amount owed

Credit Applications

Debt Management

Length of credit history

**“Checking your credit report affects your score.”**

**False!** You should check your score often to make sure there are no mistakes. These checks are **only visible to you** and do not affect your score. This is different when a lender checks your score after you’ve applied for credit. **These checks can alter your score**, so only apply for credit when you really need to.

**“The less you borrow, the better your score.”**

**False!** Lenders want to be able to see how you manage your debt. This is **much easier to assess** if you have a credit history.

Contact your bank for advice on your credit score.