



How to Store Cryptocurrency Seed Phrases & Recovery Information

A practical guide to protecting wallet access for the people who may inherit your digital assets.

THE MOST IMPORTANT RULE

If a self-custody wallet requires a recovery phrase and it is lost, the cryptocurrency may be permanently inaccessible. Keep an accurate offline backup that heirs can locate legally.

1 PREPARE THE RECOVERY BACKUP

- Write the seed phrase exactly as displayed, with every word in the correct order.
- Check spelling and numbering carefully; include the wallet name and network (if applicable).
- For durable storage, consider a purpose-made metal seed phrase backup.
- If the wallet uses an additional passphrase, document how it can be located securely.
- Follow the wallet maker's official instructions to confirm the backup is usable.

2 CHOOSE ONE OF TWO PHYSICAL STORAGE LOCATIONS

OPTION A | HOME SAFE

Use a securely anchored, fire-resistant safe; protect the backup from water. Make sure heirs know how to obtain authorized access after death.

OPTION B | BANK SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX

Place the backup in a sealed sleeve or envelope inside the box. Confirm the bank's rules for executor access and plan for possible delays.

3 MAKE IT FINDABLE WITHOUT REVEALING IT

- Tell your executor or trusted loved one which safe or bank holds the backup.
- Keep a separate estate instruction sheet identifying the location and access procedure.
- Do NOT put seed words, PINs, or private keys in the will or public probate documents.
- Consider a second physical backup in the other approved secure location.

4 PROTECT AGAINST SCAMS AND ACCIDENTAL TRANSFERS

- Never photograph, email, text, or enter a seed phrase on an unfamiliar website.
- No legitimate support agent needs your seed phrase; do not share it with "recovery" services.
- Before moving inherited assets, verify the receiving wallet, network, and address.
- Use a small test transaction when appropriate, and obtain competent help if uncertain.

IMPORTANT DISTINCTION

Exchange-held assets usually require the provider's deceased-account process, not a seed phrase.