

Bitcoin Wallet Checklist for Beginners

Before you send or receive your first Bitcoin, go through this simple checklist to make sure your wallet is ready and secure.

1. Security Setup

- Downloaded wallet from the official website or app store
 - Set a strong password (not reused from other accounts)
 - Enabled 2FA (Two-Factor Authentication) if available
 - Wrote down and safely stored the 12/24-word recovery phrase
 - Tested recovery phrase by restoring wallet on a different device (optional but smart)
-

2. Backup & Recovery

- Stored recovery phrase offline (paper, steel backup, or fireproof storage)
 - Did not take a screenshot or photo of the recovery phrase
 - Told no one else your phrase or private keys
 - Backed up wallet file or QR code (if using software wallet with additional backup options)
-

3. Device Safety

- Wallet installed on a trusted device (no malware or untrusted apps)
 - The device has a screen lock (PIN, fingerprint, or face ID)
 - Kept wallet app/software updated to the latest version
 - Avoided logging in on public Wi-Fi or shared computers
-

4. Understand the Wallet Type

- I know if my wallet is custodial or non-custodial
 - I understand that non-custodial = I own the private keys.
 - I understand that hardware wallets are best for long-term, ample storage.
 - I understand that mobile/software wallets are best for daily use or small balances
-

5. Ready for First Use

- Generated a Bitcoin receiving address
 - Did a test transaction (send a small amount to yourself to try it)
 - Saved wallet's support contact or documentation links
 - I am confident in sending and receiving Bitcoin!
-

Print this out and check it off as you go. Once complete, your wallet is secure and beginner-ready