7 ways to improve your business credit score

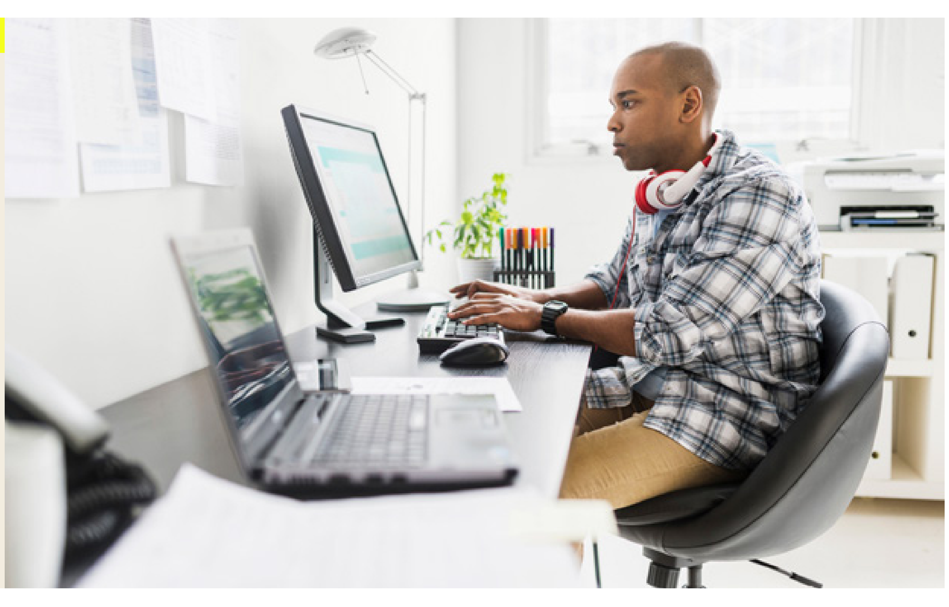
Building strong business credit can help inform lenders and vendors that your business is financially sound. A healthy score might even help secure better interest rates, higher credit limits and favorable loan terms, which can drive stability and growth for your business.

- **Lower interest rates.** Good credit could help your business secure lower interest rates on loans and lines of credit, potentially saving money in the long run.
- **Increased access to capital.** A strong credit history may make your business eligible for larger loans or lines of credit, empowering you to invest in growth initiatives like equipment upgrades or expansion.
- **Attractive vendor terms.** A strong credit score could translate into good deals or flexible payment terms, which could ultimately help you build positive relationships with vendors and suppliers by paying on time.
- **Insurance savings.** Businesses with good credit may qualify for lower insurance premiums, which may result in savings on business protection plans.
- **Enhanced reputation.** A strong credit score shows trustworthiness and financial responsibility, boosting your reputation in the eyes of potential customers, partners and investors.

You have the power to change your firm's credit score for the better. Here's how:

1. Pay on time, every time.

Late payments can hurt your credit score. Set up auto-payments to prevent accidentally missing payment deadlines.



2. Avoid using personal credit and debit cards.

Mixing finances makes it difficult to establish a business credit history. Keep business and personal credit separate.

3. Manage credit utilization.

Keep balances low relative to your credit limits. It may make sense to aim to use less than 30% of your available credit.

4. Build your credit history.

Use business accounts responsibly after opened, demonstrating your creditworthiness.

5. Seek trade references.

Pay vendors on time and ask them to report this good behavior to credit agencies – it might help boost your score.

6. Monitor and protect your credit reports.

Check your business credit reports on a regular basis and dispute inaccuracies with major credit bureaus. Learn more at Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.[1]

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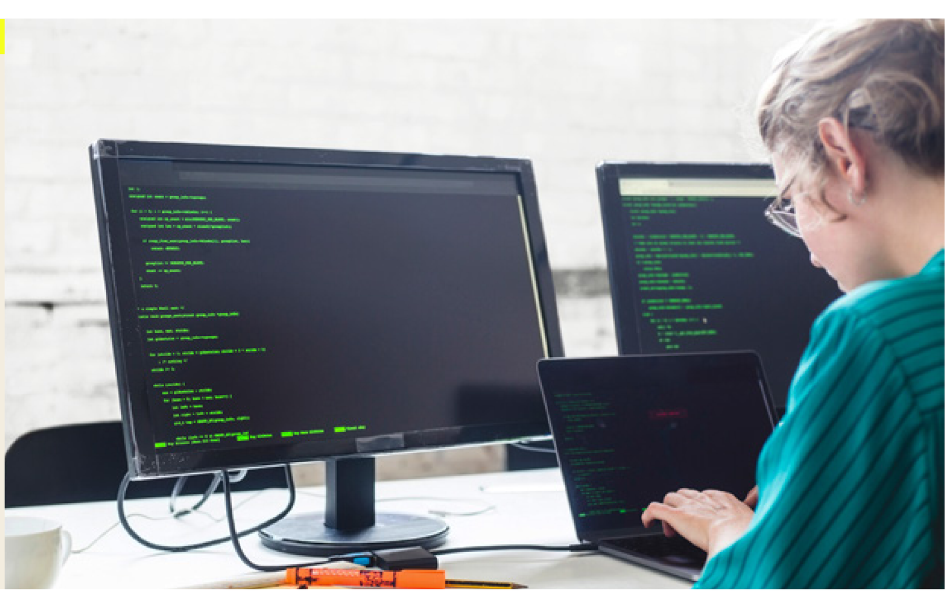

Don't let a low credit score hold you back. Implement these actions, and your business credit can become a key contributor to your company's success. Find more tips for growing your small business with Verizon's small business resources.

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[1] Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Credit Reports and Scores.

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