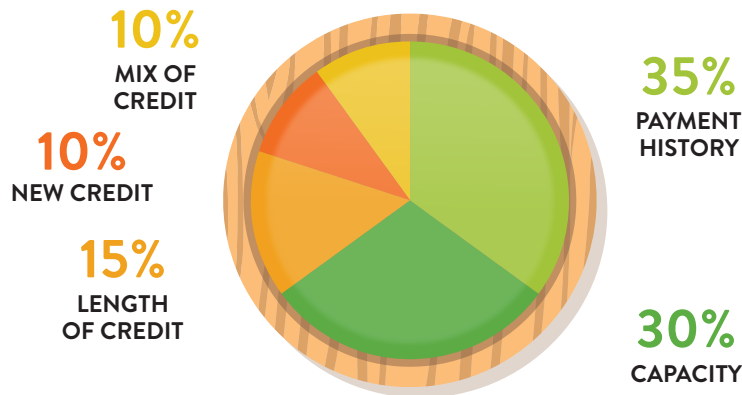


# Breakdown of a CREDIT SCORE

- IT'S A -  
**MONEY  
THING®**

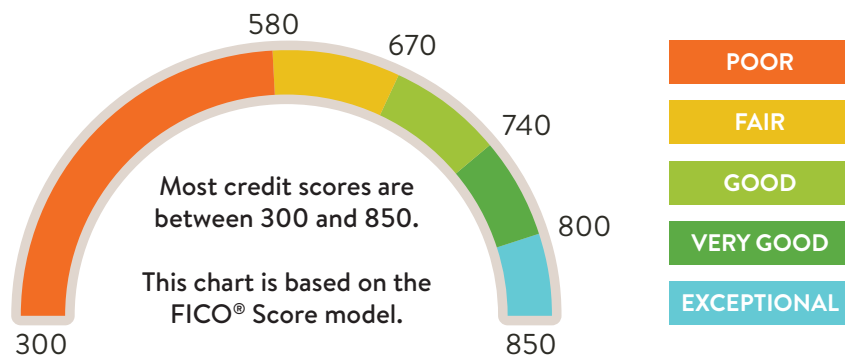
## HOW IS A CREDIT SCORE CALCULATED?



PAYMENT HISTORY	Making payments on time boosts your score
CAPACITY	The less you use of your total available credit each month, the better
LENGTH OF CREDIT	A longer history of good credit habits raises your score
NEW CREDIT	Opening lots of new credit cards in a short amount of time can hurt this part of your score
MIX OF CREDIT	A mix of revolving credit (credit cards) and instalment loans (mortgages, car loans) boosts your score

## WHAT DOES YOUR CREDIT SCORE MEAN?

*Actual scores may be interpreted differently, depending on the financial institution.*



**<580**

A low score means you could be denied a loan or credit card.

**580-740**

You may not get turned down for a loan, but you will likely be charged a higher interest rate.

**740+**

You're in good shape. This is where you want your credit score to be.

## A CREDIT SCORE

is a number used by financial institutions and credit card companies **to determine risk level** when issuing you a loan or a credit card.

## STAY ON TRACK

You are entitled to one free credit report per year from each of the major credit bureaus. Your FICO Score is not shown on the report.



**Space out your credit report requests** so you can check on your credit throughout the year.

**Need access to the real deal?** Credit bureaus usually charge a fee (\$15 to \$25) for your FICO Score.

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CREDIT UNION