

What a credit file looks like

A number of people we talk to have some very interesting ideas about what kind of information is actually on their credit file. Well, we're here to set the record straight!

Your repayment history IS NOT on there (yet). Although a huge section of the community believe that by applying for credit and paying a loan of on time will "establish a credit rating"

This is not true. The only part which will show up on your credit history is the application for credit. It won't say whether you paid it on time, it won't say whether or not you even got the finance, in some cases it doesn't say how much you applied for or what it was for.

Lenders use credit reports to show up how many times you have applied for credit and whether you have any bad credit listed against you and whether you are a proprietor of a business or director of any companies (which may in turn have their own credit files)

Your credit report will show whether you have applied for finance under any other name, it will show where you have lived over the last few years, it will show who you have been employed by, it will show every time you have applied for credit in the last 5 years (including buying mobile phones etc.) and it will show whether a company has listed you for a default, judgement, writ, acts of bankruptcy etc.

For home loans, most lenders don't really care if you have applied for a number of loans as long as it hasn't all been in the last few months. Generally they will ask you to explain the enquiries that come up for the last 6 months to make sure there isn't a problem and it's often better to tell them up front to save them jumping to conclusions. While it doesn't say whether you've been approved or not, 4 inquiries for housing finance over the last 2 months looks suspicious & they will assume that you have been knocked back & begin to wonder about what you might not be telling them...

I have attached a typical credit file in its usual layout for you to have a look at, keep in mind that we have made this one up to give you a good example but the layout is the same as a real one. This is the way they look to us but if you order your own file from one of the credit providers, the layout may change a little. The two major credit reporting agencies are Veda Advantage (formerly Baycorp) who can be contacted on 1300 762 207 or Dunn and Bradstreet on 13 23 33

One final note, for personal loans including vehicle loans, lenders also use a "credit scoring" system which can have a loan application knocked back even if your credit history is good, it works on a method of rating your history by considering how many times you have moved, how many times you have applied for credit, how many different employers you have had etc. If you move a lot and ask for credit every chance you get you may be considered a bad risk anyway so limit how many times you ask for credit and try to stay in one place for a while if this has happened to you.

Dorian Traill
Grand Capital Finance Group

Individual Consumer and Commercial Report

Current Date 03/03/2007

Name:	SMITH, DAVID JAMES	File No:	123456789
First Reported:	01/01/1990		
Date of Birth	02/05/1960	Sex:	Male
Drivers Licence	123456789		

Summary Information

Defaults:	2	File Notes:	0
Credit Providers:	0	Enquiries	13
Auth. Agents Enquiries:	1	Cross References:	1
Director of Companies:	1	Previous Directorship:	0
Disqualified Directorship	0	Proprietor of Bus. Names:	0
Bankruptcy Act:	1	Court Judgements:	2
Court Writs:	0	Securities:	0
Employers:	1	Addresses	2

Consumer Addresses

First Reported:	20/10/2004
Address:	20 SMITH ST SMITHVILLE
First Reported	10/05/2000
Address:	30 JONES ST JONESVILLE

Consumer Employment

Date	10/04/2002
Employer:	SELF EMPLOYED

Consumer Cross Reference

Date:	13/12/2003
Name:	SMITHE, DAVID JAMES
File Number:	112233445

Director of Companies:

Company:	DAVE SMITH INDUSTRIES PTY LTD
Company Status:	Registered
A.C.N	123123123
A.B.N	12312312312
Appointment Date:	10/04/2002
File Number:	12233445

Consumer Defaults

Account Number:	001122313		
Account Type:	Telecommunication Services		
Association Code:	Principle's account	Co-Borrower:	
Latest Subscriber:	TELSTRA CREDIT MANAGEMENT		
Latest Date:	15/12/2006	Latest Amount:	\$930
Original Subscriber:	TELSTRA CREDIT MANAGEMENT		
Original Date:	20/06/2006	Original Amount:	\$930
Original Reason	Payment Default		
Status:	PAID		

Account Number:	001122300		
Account Type:	Loan Contract		
Association Code:	Principle's account	Co-Borrower:	
Latest Subscriber:	THE MONEY COLLECTION COMPANY		
Latest Date:	19/08/2005	Latest Amount:	\$1350
Original Subscriber:	SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY		
Original Date:	23/04/2003	Original Amount:	\$780
Original Reason Status:	Payment Default		

Consumer Credit Inquiries

Date:	10/01/2007	Amount:	350000
Subscriber:	JOE BLOGGS HOME LOAN COMPANY		
Account Type:	Real Estate Mortgage		
Association Code:	Co-Borrower with Spouse (Including De-Facto)		
Date:	22/09/2006	Amount:	0
Subscriber:	VIRGIN MOBILE		
Account Type:	Telecommunication Services		
Association Code:	Principle's Account		
Date:	17/03/2006	Amount:	5000
Subscriber:	ANZ BANK CARDS		
Account Type:	Continuing Credit Contract Reference No:		456501220001010
Association Code:	Principle's Account		
Date:	05/12/2005	Amount:	5000
Subscriber:	GE CAPITAL FINANCE AUSTRALIA		
Account Type:	Continuing Credit Contract Reference NO:		00701234515244
Association Code:	Principle's Account		
Date:	13/04/2005	Amount:	0
Subscriber:	TELSTRA CREDIT MANAGEMENT		
Account Type:	Telecommunications Services		
Association Code:	Principle's Account		
Date:	15/10/2004	Amount:	0
Subscriber:	TRUENERGY P/L		
Account Type:	Utilities		
Association Code:	Principle's Account		
Date:	12/10/2004	Amount:	0
Subscriber:	OPTUS		
Account Type:	Telecommunications Services		
Association Code:	Principle's Account		
Date:	03/11/2003	Amount:	0
Subscriber:	FLEXIRENT		
Account Type:	Loan Contract		
Association Code:	Principle's Account		
Date:	10/05/2003	Amount:	20350
Subscriber:	ESANDA FINANCE		
Account Type:	Chattel Mortgage	Reference No:	01245878258512
Association Code:	Principle's Account		

Date:	28/07/2002	Amount:	10000
Subscriber:	SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY		
Account Type:	Loan Contract	Reference No:	555120462
Association Code:	Principle's Account		

Commercial Credit Enquiries

Date:	18/06/2006	Amount:	2000
Subscriber:	TRADE HARDWARE		
Account Type:	30 Day Account		
Association Code:	Director		

Date:	19/04/2005	Amount:	15800
Subscriber:	COMMERCIAL MOTOR DEALERS		
Account Type:	Hire Purchase	Reference No:	NJF3452
Association Code:	Guarantor		

Date:	16/07/2004	Amount:	0
Subscriber:	AUST BUSINESS RESEARCH		
Account Type:	Trade Finance		
Association Code:	Principle's Account		

Date:	02/03/2004	Amount:	20000
Subscriber:	NATIONAL FINANCE CORP		
Account Type:	Overdraft		
Association Code:	Principle's Account		

Consumer Authorised Agent Enquiries

Date:	09/01/2007	Amount:	0
Subscriber:	GRAND CAPITAL FINANCE GROUP		
Account Type:	Loan contract	Reference no:	
Association Code:	Principle's Account	Co-Borrower:	

Court Judgements

Date:	16/05/2006	Amount:	2450
Creditor:	MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL		
Plaint Number:	00112/52/0	Court Code:	Local Court Judgement
Association Code:	Joint	Co-Borrower:	
Status	SETTLED	Status Date	03/08/2006

Bankruptcy Act

Date:	21/10/2000	Proceeding No:	0001100 VIC
Type:	Bankruptcy (Debtors Petition)		
Text:	DEBTORS PETITION		
Association Code:	Principle's Account	C-Borrower:	
Disch Status:	Discharged	Discharged Date:	22/10/2003

***** END OF REPORT *****