Freezes are similar to Locks, but you’ll need to freeze and unfreeze your accounts on an external website. The Freezes below cover the types of account openings that could potentially involve identity theft. I recommend using as many Freezes as possible.

[**Learn more about the differences between freezes and locks**](https://support.norton.com/sp/en/us/home/current/solutions/v136132504)

 **Credit Freeze**

Identity thieves can open credit cards and apply for loans in your name, leaving you responsible for the unpaid balances.

maximize

**Credit Freeze TransUnion:** [**https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze**](https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)

**Credit Freeze Equifax:** [**https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/**](https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/)

**Credit Freeze Experian:** [**https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/category/fraud-and-identity-theft/security-freeze/**](https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/category/fraud-and-identity-theft/security-freeze/)

****

**Bank Security Freeze**

Identity thieves can open bank accounts in your name, launder your money, and leave you accountable for the costs.

maximize

**Bank Security Freeze**

**ChexSystems:** [**https://www.chexsystems.com/security-freeze/place-freeze**](https://www.chexsystems.com/security-freeze/place-freeze)



**Utilities Security Freeze**

Identity thieves can open phone, electricity, water, and other utility accounts, accruing charges in your name and damaging your credit.

**Utilities Security Freeze:** [**https://www.exchangeservicecenter.com/Freeze/#/**](https://www.exchangeservicecenter.com/Freeze/#/)



**Employment Data Freeze**

Identity thieves can use your identity for employment and subject you to a possible IRS audit for unreported wages.

maximize

**Employment Data Freeze E-Verify:** [**https://www.e-verify.gov/employees/employee-self-services/mye-verify/self-lock**](https://www.e-verify.gov/employees/employee-self-services/mye-verify/self-lock)

**Employment Data Freeze Equifax:** [**https://employees.theworknumber.com/employee-data-freeze/**](https://employees.theworknumber.com/employee-data-freeze/)



**Protect Yourself Against Tax ID Theft**

Identity thieves can file a tax return on your behalf and block you from filing your taxes on time, while possibly recouping your tax refund. Help prevent this potential identity theft by applying for an Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) from the IRS, using your SSN or Taxpayer ID Number (TIN).

Once you make this request, **you will always need the IP PIN each time you file your federal taxes.** You will need a new IP PIN every year to file. Keep your IP PIN in a safe place.

maximize

**Identity, Protection PIN (IP PIN) from the IRS:** [**https://www.irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/get-an-identity-protection-pin**](https://www.irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/get-an-identity-protection-pin)