

# CRC Bulletin

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[www.crccreditbureau.com](http://www.crccreditbureau.com)

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## Ways Credit Card can ruin your Credit

According to CRC Credit Bureau repository, Credit card is one of top five loans requested by consumers because it is secure and convenient. However, it is important to note that one of the loans giving consumers bad credit reports are also the credit cards.

Below are ways your credit card can hurt your credit.

- **Making late payments.** Banks may not forgive you if you default on your payments. Additionally, fees on late payments and a penalty interest rate might likely be added together with reporting the delinquency to the credit bureaus which would reflect in the credit report.
- **Opening a lot of credit card accounts.** In as much as banks offer bonuses and promotional financial rates on new credit cards, applying or having more than one credit card might have a negative impact on your credit report.
- **Get stranded with someone else's debt.** If you manage your finances jointly and share credit card accounts, there is a risk of having disastrous consequences when it doesn't work out. If one of the joint account holders defaults on the credit, the damage can affect all the joint account holders.

## Identity Theft: Credit Cards, a weapon for fraudsters

With the advent of cashless economy, many consumers have relied heavily on the application of computer technology. This has also brought about the issue of identity theft, which can hit consumers in a number of ways. However, one of the most common being payments made with credit cards.

According to recent reports, credit cards were used in nearly 56 percent of all fraudulent transactions especially in the United States of America. According to ThisDay newspaper, 20 Nigerians were involved in a multi-million dollar credit card scam in the US in April, 2013. Other internet crime includes taking money directly out of an account, or using a debit card.

With incidents of fraud rising overall, it is becoming more vital for consumers to keep close eyes on their accounts, checking bank statements and transactions as frequently as possible to check for unauthorized transactions.

See the following link <http://www.crccreditbureau.com/site/pdf/JULY%20-%20DECEMBER%202012%20EDITION.pdf> on 10 tips on how to prevent Identity Theft.