FOR INDIVIDUALS / WALLET SECURITY

Build safer habits for using a crypto wallet

Understand what you are protecting, what a wallet request can authorise, and which habits make everyday checks easier.

01 Know which access you control

Know whether you use a custodial account or self-custody, and which credentials and recovery process apply. A public address, account password and recovery phrase have different roles. Keep recovery phrases private and out of ordinary notes or incident reports.

02 Check what you are approving

Review the actual wallet request: the site, network and action it would authorise. Transfers, permissions and signatures can have different consequences. Pause if the request is unclear. A hardware wallet does not verify the legitimacy of the website or investment.

03 Make account checks easier to repeat

Use strong authentication and official software channels. Check a device's origin and follow manufacturer setup guidance. Protect purchase and shipping details that identify you as a holder. Wallet security includes the device, your information and personal safety.

04 Keep recovery planning separate from an incident

Plan backups before an incident. For suspected compromise, report promptly and seek verified guidance before moving assets or signing on a potentially compromised setup. Preserve device evidence. If physical safety is threatened, contact local emergency services first.

Example. A fictional page describes a button as "Sign in", but the wallet opens a permission request involving a token. The wording on the page does not explain the permission. Pause until the wallet request itself is understood.

Review checklist

- ☐ I know whether my main setup is custodial or self-custodial.
- ☐ I know where to find official wallet documentation.
- ☐ I check the device's origin and the action requested before approving it.
- ☐ I have a backup plan that does not expose credentials in ordinary notes.

Examples are fictional. Completing these checks does not establish safety or recovery prospects.

References: Ethereum: security and scam prevention / Ethereum: accounts

Suspected compromise? Report the incident and seek verified, incident-specific guidance.