

7-Minute Stablecoin Safety Checklist

Effective Currency • Practical guides • No hype

1. Before you move any money

- ☐ I know who issues this stablecoin and can find their official website without clicking an ad or a message link.
- ☐ I have checked whether the issuer publishes reserve reports or attestations, and how recent they are.
- ☐ I understand that stablecoins are not bank deposits and are generally not insured the way bank deposits are.
- ☐ I have confirmed the exact network (for example Ethereum or Tron) that both the sender and the receiver support.
- ☐ I have bookmarked the official sites I use, and I type or open them from my bookmarks every time.

2. Seed phrase do's and don'ts

- ☐ DO write your recovery phrase on paper or metal, offline, and store copies in separate secure places.
- ☐ DO check that your backup works before you rely on it, following your wallet maker's own instructions.
- ☐ DON'T type your recovery phrase into a website, app, chat or email. No real support team will ask for it.
- ☐ DON'T photograph it, store it in cloud notes, or paste it into a password manager you don't fully trust.
- ☐ DON'T buy a hardware wallet that arrives opened, used, or with a phrase already written down.

3. Counterparty red flags

- ☐ Guaranteed or unusually high returns, or pressure to act quickly.
- ☐ No clear company or team behind the product, or no way to contact them.
- ☐ Withdrawals paused, delayed, or suddenly requiring new fees.
- ☐ Someone you met online asks you to send funds, or to move to a different app to continue.
- ☐ The site address, app name or email sender looks almost right but is slightly different from the official one.

7-Minute Stablecoin Safety Checklist (continued)

4. The transfer test flow

- ☐ Step 1. Copy the receiving address from the receiving wallet, not from a message or email.
- ☐ Step 2. Compare the first and last characters of the address on both screens. If you use a hardware wallet, check the address on the device's own screen.
- ☐ Step 3. Confirm the network again, then send a small test amount.
- ☐ Step 4. Wait for the test to arrive and confirm it is in the right account.
- ☐ Step 5. Only then send the full amount, using the same address and network.
- ☐ Step 6. Keep a note of the transaction ID in case you need to trace it.

5. After you send

- ☐ Check that the balance arrived in the right place and look at the transaction on a block explorer.
- ☐ Revoke any app or website permissions you no longer need.
- ☐ Update your backups if you changed wallets or accounts.

Remember

Most losses come from people, not code: fake support messages, look-alike sites and requests for your recovery phrase. Slow down, verify from official sources, and when in doubt, don't send.

Go deeper on effectivecurrency.com

Stablecoins 101 • Seed Phrase Do's & Don'ts • How to Test Transfers Safely
Self-Custody & Recovery • Ledger vs. Trezor • Stablecoin Yields: Real Risks