

Improving your credit score often involves well-known strategies, but there are lesser-known methods that can also be effective:

1. **Report Alternative Payments:** Services like Experian Boost allow you to add utility and telecom payments to your credit report, potentially increasing your score.
2. **Utilize Credit-BUILDER Loans:** These loans are designed to help individuals build credit. The borrowed amount is held in a bank account while you make payments, and upon completion, the funds are released to you. (Secured Loans)
3. **Become an Authorized User:** Being added as an authorized user on someone else's credit card can help build your credit history, provided the primary user maintains good credit habits. The primary account holder can restrict your access to their account which means you won't have any access to the account holder's info, account, account info, or be able to make any changes. The account holder's card history will be reflected on your credit report. SO make sure it's a good payment history! This can fool the system into thinking you have good credit history which can lead to you receiving credit offers from other banks or lenders. Once you open enough new accounts in your name only, you can be removed as the authorized user.
4. **Consider Peer-to-Peer Lending:** Obtaining a loan through peer-to-peer platforms and repaying it responsibly can contribute positively to your credit history.
5. **Secured Credit Cards:** Most banks offer secured credit cards with limits ranging from \$100-5,000.00. What this means is that you will give the bank or credit card company the amount of money that you wish to have available to you as a credit limit. They place this money in an account at the bank and your credit card is issued with a limit matching the amount you gave them. (For example: if you want a \$500.00 credit limit, you will need to deposit \$500.00 with them. They require this so that if you decide not to pay your credit card bill, they will close the Credit Card account and pay off your bill with the money you gave them to open the account). Secured credit cards are reported to credit bureaus the same as non-secured credit cards. You can also open up multiple secured credit cards with multiple banks or credit card companies.

By incorporating these strategies, you can work towards enhancing your credit score beyond conventional methods.

