



# THE AI CRYPTO EXPLOSION

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3 Cryptos Merging Technology's  
Two Biggest Trends

By Jeff D. Opdyke



Global  
Intelligence

## ***The AI Crypto Explosion: 3 Cryptos Merging Technology's Two Biggest Trends***

**Author:** Jeff D. Opdyke

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*“In this report, I’ve identified three specific AI-related cryptos that I believe have the potential to deliver huge returns.”*

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# Introduction

Most people think AI and crypto are two separate trends.

But they're actually converging in ways that could create some of the most explosive profit opportunities I've seen in decades.

AI is being integrated directly into crypto platforms.

We're seeing AI-powered trading agents... AI-driven validation systems... AI-generated content engines all built on blockchain technology. Decentralized AI networks are being constructed on crypto infrastructure.

And this merger is creating some of the hottest profit potential I've ever seen in my 30-year career covering markets.

While bitcoin tends to grab all the crypto-related headlines... \$1,000 isn't going to turn into \$100,000 with bitcoin based on its current price.

The REAL massive gains are happening in smaller AI-related cryptos. The ones hardly anyone knows about yet. The ones merging artificial intelligence with blockchain technology in ways that could transform entire industries.

Now, I need to be completely honest with you: These are speculative, shoot-the-moon types of plays... They are high risk. Some of these cryptos could go to zero—so you should only invest as much as you are willing to lose.

However, if you can handle volatility... and if you want a shot at truly life-changing gains faster than anything you've ever seen... this is where you find them.

In this report, I've identified three specific AI-related cryptos that I believe have the potential to deliver huge returns.

I've detailed all three of these AI-crypto opportunities—including the exact names, how to buy them, and which exchanges to use—below.

Read on...



Jeff D. Opdyke

Editor, *Global Intelligence*

# PART I:

## Explosive Profits With “The Future of Money”

In the spring of 1984 and newly turned 18 years old, I skipped class one morning at Louisiana State University.

I drove the 80 or so miles from the LSU campus to downtown New Orleans—to the only office in the region for discount brokerage firm Charles Schwab & Co.

Though the discount stock brokering industry had begun in 1975, it was still largely a novelty when I opened my first brokerage account with \$2,000 that I hand-delivered in the form of a personal check, one of the first checks I'd ever written.

Schwab at that point had just 40 offices across the US—less than one per state.

In short, I was something of a pioneer even though the industry was already nine years old.

Days later, after the check cleared and my account was officially funded, I called Schwab's toll-free number from an old “Slimline” push-button phone I had in my bedroom and, using those little square buttons on the handset, placed my very first order to buy my very first shares of stock.

That purchase: Flying Tiger, the air-freight company that spun out of the World War II Flying Tigers fighter unit that helped China fend off a Japanese invasion. Back then, I saw that overnight air cargo would emerge as a massive industry and that Flying Tiger would be a player in that. (It was... and was snapped up by Federal Express in 1988.)

I share this anecdote because it highlights the way that technology brings newcomers into newly emerging financial services sectors.

I was never going to open a brokerage account at Merrill Lynch, E.F. Hutton, or PaineWebber, the big brokerage firms I knew of back in the day. (“When E.F. Hutton talks, people listen.” Remember that TV commercial catchphrase?)

I couldn't afford the huge commissions of hundreds of dollars per trade. Moreover, none of those firms cared about a college freshman with a measly \$2,000 to invest.

Nevertheless, the little guy like me had an option to stake my claim on America's business future by way of Schwab, which, at the time, imposed a flat \$35 trading fee. That, I could afford.

When Schwab and the other discounters emerged, they were seen as the “future of stock brokering,” though the entrenched incumbents and their sycophantic adherents vehemently (and wrongly) disagreed. Discount brokers were just a venue for the *hoi polloi* to lose their money gambling. They were certainly never going to attract the truly moneyed elite who demand personalized services and want access to Wall Street research.

How'd that work out?

When was the last time you heard the name “Merrill Lynch” in any conversation or in any TV ad? I’d bet it has been a dozen years or more, given that Merrill Lynch ended up inside Bank of America during the 2008 financial crisis. American Express bought E.F. Hutton in 1988 and the remnants of what was once America’s #2 brokerage firm has bounced around ever since. PaineWebber, meanwhile, is now UBS Wealth Management, which isn’t even a brokerage firm.

But look at what has become of the discount brokerage industry.

Schwab, Fidelity, E\*Trade, Robinhood, TD Ameritrade, Interactive Brokers... they’re the most popular stock-market trading platforms in America, and every last one of them is a discount broker.

The future arrived that the discounters promised. Discount brokers would one day come to rule the roost, and the traditional model of high-cost stock brokerage died away.

Now, we sit on the cusp of another major “the future of” moment.

The future of money.

That future is crypto.

Many—*many!*—continue to vehemently (and wrongly) disagree with that statement. Physical currency has been humanity’s go-to option for more than 2,500 years. As for the US dollar, specifically, it has served as the world’s most important currency for more than 80 years and as America’s money since 1785.

To think that anything will come along and knock physical money—especially the dollar—off its perch is ludicrous and laughable... at least according to dollar sycophants and those who are preternaturally conditioned to disregard anything that challenges the status quo. They believe that what *is* will *always be*, even though the entirety of history proves that their unmovable belief system is wrong.

Truth is, digital money has already changed the world.

Of all the US currency that exists, just 10% of it is actual physical bills and coins. The other 90%? All digital entries on digital ledgers somewhere.

So, technically, we’re already 90% of the way toward a digital money world. The only question is, how soon does that last 10% go digital too?

Once that happens—and it will, 100% guaranteed—the leap from digital fiat currency to cryptocurrency is just a function of governments deciding that in the [move to crypto](#) they can monkey with today’s extreme levels of Western debt to find a way to minimize or erase some or most of their obligations.

But monkeying with debt is a different story.

Instead, the story I want to share with you this month is the story of how you can profit from the future of money...

## Crypto Is the Future of Money—Here’s Why

Before I dive into my specific recommendations, I want to step back and explain crypto for those who are new to the notion, or those who don’t understand why something you cannot see—a cryptocurrency that only exists in the digital ether—is worth anything at all.

Let’s start with the “cannot see it” concept, since it’s so easy to dismiss.

Is a dollar in your bank account worth anything?

Of course it is.

But you cannot see it. As I noted a moment ago, 90% of America's currency does not actually exist. It's digital. If everyone today decided they wanted to hold their physical dollars as cash and stuff it under their mattress, the US banking system would fail because there are simply not enough units of physical currency to meet that demand.

Or what about those mutual-fund shares you own in your (discount) brokerage account?

They're a digital book entry, since mutual funds don't issue physical shares that you can hold onto.

Much of your financial life, then, is actually digital money. Many people just don't recognize that fact because they hold dollar bills in their wallet... and they've probably seen an old stock certificate in a parent's or grandparent's safe or safe-deposit box.

Nevertheless, our financial lives are digital.

Pay for groceries at the local Piggly Wiggly and, I'll wager, you're pulling a debit card out of your wallet to scan at the point-of-sale machine. That money automatically leaves your bank account as a debit and magically appears as a credit in the supermarket's bank account. No one touches any physical currency anywhere in the process. (And if you used a credit card, well, there's just one extra step in the process—you paying your credit card bill, probably online, meaning another digital touchpoint.)

Cryptocurrency really is no different on that point.

Sure, you cannot see it, but it has value, just as the dollars and mutual funds you cannot see have value.

As for the bigger question, "What is crypto?", well, the simplest answer is that crypto is a digital financial asset that exists on a blockchain. But that word "blockchain" is where people generally get lost.

Technically, a blockchain is nothing more complicated than an electronic network on which transactions are recorded. But even that seems amorphous. So, think about it as a digital ledger, much like an Excel spreadsheet. And imagine recording every transaction in your daily life on that spreadsheet, without fail.

This "spreadsheet" has three unbreakable rules:

1. Neither you nor anyone else can erase or change any transaction once it's on the spreadsheet. That transaction is permanently locked in place and secured by cryptographic technology that prevents anyone from monkeying with the data.
2. Transactions cannot be rearranged. If you spend \$7.85 at 7-Eleven on May 3, 2026 at 9:19 a.m., and then you spend \$44.72 to fill your gas tank at Exxon on the same day at 10:04 a.m., those two transactions will always remain in the exact same place on your spreadsheet for the rest of time. In fact, they will be connected by cryptographic technology that ensures that the "block" holding the details of the 7-Eleven transaction will forever be connected to the block holding the details of the Exxon transaction. (Basically, think of child's wooden block; inscribe it with indelible ink and then Gorilla Glue it to the next block in line... that's the blockchain.)

3. The blockchain is public, so everyone can see every transaction on your spreadsheet. Now, no one knows it's your spreadsheet because your identity is hidden behind a "digital wallet." These wallets hold your cryptocurrency and record your transactions, and they're identified only by a long, alphanumeric string that does not identify the owner in any way.



*A visual representation showing interconnected "blocks" of data in a blockchain.*

But, you might rightly be wondering, "Why do we even need a blockchain when we already have digital networks that move money around?"

Several reasons:

- **Safety/Security.** Blockchains are unhackable, so they represent far greater security. Yes, there have been numerous scams in crypto, and there are instances in which cryptocurrency projects have been hacked. But those are not the blockchain. Those are instances in which human error and errors in the coding that run projects have allowed breaches to happen. It's sort of like admitting that criminals have robbed a bank because of lax bank security, but no one has ever broken into Fort Knox or the US Treasury. In other words, some of the affiliate infrastructure has been hit—but the core of the system is unbreakable.
- **Cost.** Moving money around a blockchain can be exceedingly cheap. The Solana blockchain is a great example of this. I can move, say, \$1 million from the US to Europe by way of the traditional banking network, and it will cost me upwards of \$100 in fees. Or I can move the same amount of money in the form of crypto for pennies.
- **Speed.** Crypto moves at the speed of electrons; the traditional financial world moves at the speed of humans and their 9-to-5 jobs, five days a week. Meaning: That \$1 million transfer in the traditional finance world could take hours or days, depending on when the transaction is processed. With crypto, the transaction completes in a couple of minutes, if not just a few seconds. Moreover, the blockchain operates 24/7/365, so there's never a time when anyone or any company needs to wait for business hours.

I joke regularly in my crypto presentations at conferences that the internet did not explode into what it is today because humanity needed a better way to share cat videos. It became the internet we know and rely on in our daily life because business saw a novel path for cutting costs, speeding up transactions, and creating new and never-before-seen products and services.

In short: the internet made business more efficient, meaning it made business more profitable.

And that is precisely what crypto and the blockchain offer... efficiency in the form of radically improved speed, massively cheaper costs, and a venue for creating new products and services that consumers and businesses have never seen until now.

One quick example: A New York company called Parcl Labs has created a financial product in which every new real estate listing, every sale, and every price change in a specific Metropolitan Statistical Area is captured and turned into a “price per square foot” number for that MSA.

Parcl updates and tracks that number every single day. There’s no way to easily do that in the real world. But on the crypto-based blockchain, Parcl can gather up all the data immediately because of underlying technology. Wall Street traders are already using Parcl.

As such, there’s simply no way that crypto doesn’t explode into “the future of money,” because any technology that allows business to collect greater profits, faster, and to create novel products that attract more and new customers... well, that’s a technology that is 100% certain to see mass adoption.

## **AI Is the Future of Crypto... and Everything Else**

If crypto is the future of money... artificial intelligence (AI) is the future of crypto. And a whole bunch of other industries, too.

The rise of AI comes at the exact same moment that crypto and blockchain are moving into a new phase.

Previously, blockchain—the digital ledger technology on which all cryptos are built—was largely the playground of early adopters buying and selling cryptocurrencies or NFTs (those one-off, one-of-a-kind tokens that often appear as cartoonish images).

But now, blockchain is also emerging as a business tool that allows companies to operate more efficiently and at dramatically lower costs—like I explained above.

Goldman Sachs, Home Depot, McDonald's, Nike, and scores of other major corporations have announced initiatives that leverage blockchain to benefit their operations. JPMorgan, for instance, has created an in-house blockchain called Onyx that allows financial firms to move assets around instantly, without any middleman, and at a far cheaper cost.

Now, AI is entering the fray to accelerate the pace of this industrial and financial change...

AI works by combining vast amounts of data with machine-learning algorithms. In essence, it's able to analyze information and make intelligent decisions, the kind that previously required human intervention.

Moreover, because computers process data infinitely faster than the human mind, and because they analyze every last byte of information without growing tired or accidentally overlooking something, their decision-making is significantly more accurate.

Faster and more accurate, and it doesn't require sick days, vacation pay, health insurance, or cause HR headaches... AI is a dream for any business owner.

One of the challenges with AI, however, is ensuring accuracy of information. Supply the system with bad data and you can get faulty outcomes.

That's why AI-powered bots like ChatGPT can sometimes deliver questionable results. These bots typically gather data from the internet, but online information, as we all know, can be less than reliable. That means—for all the journalists and college kids using ChatGPT—these bots can produce articles or papers with inaccurate statements or conclusions.

Enter blockchain...

Blockchain is a permanent, unhackable record-keeping system. The data on a blockchain is verifiable and tamper-proof. And you can control when, where, and how it is entered.

So, it's not hard to see how the combination of blockchain and AI will radically transform existing businesses and even create entirely new industries and product lines.

Consider some of the possibilities that are sure to become a reality in the near future... or are already in play...

- *Healthcare*

Blockchain could collect and store all of an individual's health records in a secure "personal medical vault," no matter which doctor they see or where. Then, AI could instantaneously analyze each new entry.

By comparing it to that patient's compendium of records, the system could immediately diagnose emerging or underlying medical issues that a human doctor might not necessarily see because they haven't got the time to examine each patient's entire medical history.

The result is a truly personalized healthcare system that's far more efficient and cost-effective than today's model, and which better serves a patient's needs.

- *Supply-chain management*

Blockchain is already used in supply chain management since it allows a large number of independent actors to access a system without being able to disrupt that system. It's the same way people all over the world can buy and sell bitcoin, but they can't interfere with the operations of the bitcoin blockchain.

Here's how that works with, say, a shipment of beef sent from a farm in Iowa to a cold-storage warehouse in Chicago:

Individual cows on a farm are assigned a blockchain tag. When the farmer sends a cow to a processing plant, its tag is transferred to the plant's "wallet." Later, when the processing plant sends the steaks from that cow to the warehouse in Chicago, the tag is broken up into sub-tags of the original and sent again. And all along the way, the tags are tracking climate data to ensure that the meat is never exposed to temperatures that would cause the growth of bacteria.

Each time a tag is transferred, the farmer or plant or the shipping company or whoever pays a tiny sliver of crypto to facilitate the transaction, in the same way you pay a network transaction fee to buy crypto. In this way, the supply chain management system is independent, secure, and funded by all the participants up and down the chain.

Now add AI to the mix...

AI steps in with instantaneous data analytics and predictive algorithms that can automatically increase or decrease inventory based on real-time demand.

It can identify bottlenecks in the production and shipping processes, and act to resolve them. And it can monitor second-by-second pricing trends and shipping costs for raw commodities and automatically shift between suppliers to achieve cost savings.

Systems with some of these capabilities already exist, such as the TradeLens blockchain platform co-developed by IBM and shipping giant Merck.

- *Financial Services*

Computers can already gather vast amounts of data and decipher trends. AI kicks it up several notches by actually learning from ever-shifting patterns and using its predictive logic to independently trade various types of financial assets.

That's going to fit very well into the rapidly emerging world of decentralized finance that now exists on the blockchain. DeFi, as it's known, is a financial model that takes middlemen out of the equation for everything from banking to investing to real estate transactions, and more.

Imagine mutual funds that are steered entirely by AI. Or retirement-account management in which AI tracks your entire portfolio in real time and automatically adjusts it based on algorithms that accurately predict movements in stocks, bonds, currencies, etc.

That AI-infused crypto world is exactly where we're headed globally.

So, how do we profit from the crypto/AI nexus?

I have three cryptos that I recommend you own...

## **Pick No. 1: Hyperliquid—The DeFi AI Play**

Hyperliquid sits right at the intersection of two of the most powerful forces reshaping the global financial system: Artificial intelligence and decentralized finance.

If you go digging around online, you'll see Hyperliquid described as an "AI-powered DeFi platform."

That's not quite right.

Hyperliquid today is, at its core, a high-performance decentralized trading exchange—a place where people can trade crypto derivatives without handing over custody of their money to a centralized institution.

No AI magic required.

So if you're asking:

"Is Hyperliquid an AI platform today?"

You're asking the wrong question.

The right question is:

"Is Hyperliquid building the rails for a world where AI manages money?"

Because that world is coming.

Let me simplify what's happening.

For decades, markets have evolved like this:

1. Humans traded manually.
2. Then came algorithmic trading.
3. Now we're moving toward machine-driven decision-making.

At the same time:

1. Finance was controlled by institutions
2. Then came online platforms
3. Now we have decentralized, permissionless systems (DeFi)

Put those two trends together and you get something entirely new: Autonomous capital operating in decentralized markets.

Not traders clicking buttons... Not hedge funds running models... But software—intelligent systems—deploying capital, managing risk, executing trades... all without human intervention.

That's where this is going.

And right now, Hyperliquid is building an open financial system that machines can plug into:

- A fast, on-chain order book
- No gatekeepers
- No custody risk
- Global, 24/7 access

Now layer in what we're starting to see in the AI/crypto trading space—early “[AI agents](#),” trading bots, automated liquidity systems... They're primitive today. But so was DeFi itself when it looked like a science project. Early versions always look underwhelming. What matters is the direction.

You'll read online about a bunch of supposedly sophisticated AI agents operating on the Hyperliquid platform—they have names like “Liquina” or “WAGMI”...

We don't want to invest in any of those specifically. Those will come and go.

By investing in the Hyperliquid platform itself, we're investing in something much more fundamental: The possibility that Hyperliquid becomes a core execution layer for automated capital.

If that happens—if machines begin to dominate trading flows in decentralized markets—then the platforms where that activity takes place will capture enormous value. That's Hyperliquid.

So, how do we invest in Hyperliquid? We own the token that's native to the Hyperliquid platform.

**RECOMMENDATION: Buy Hyperliquid (symbol: HYPE) at prices up to \$50 per token.**

**Risk: Venture Investing.** (What does this mean? Before you act, read a full breakdown of my five-level risk assessment scale [here](#).)

You can buy the Hyperliquid crypto at Coinbase—my favored crypto exchange—and several other well-known crypto exchanges. (Side note: In 2025, Coinbase joined the S&P 500 as the first crypto company to be included in the index.)

For details on setting up a Coinbase account... and how to buy cryptos... see Part II of this report.

## Risks and Rewards With Hyperliquid

Now... it's important to bear in mind, there are real risks here. Like all my crypto recommendations, I classify owning Hyperliquid as venture-style speculation.

What are the risks?

### 1. It could simply fail

Crypto is littered with projects that looked promising... until they weren't.

### 2. Regulation could intervene

A decentralized derivatives exchange with no know-your-customer rules is not exactly a regulator's favorite invention.

### 3. Competition is coming

If this idea works, others will build similar systems. Maybe better ones.

So here's how I'm thinking about it—and how you should too. Hyperliquid is:

- High risk
- Highly speculative
- Potentially high reward

This is not where you park your life savings. This is not where you bet the farm. This is where you place a small, asymmetric bet on a future that might unfold.

If it works, it could be a big winner.

If it doesn't, you walk away intact.

That's the game.

## Pick No. 2: Solana—The Best Play on the Future of Finance

Though more than 10,000 crypto projects pack the cryptoeconomy, one project in particular has, in my estimation, one of the brightest futures: Solana.

Solana is already shaping up as the cryptocurrency that will, I suspect, become the backbone of our daily spending infrastructure (and I will explain more about that in just a moment).

Solana is one of the top five cryptocurrencies in the world, based on market capitalization, or the combined value of all the Solana coins that exist.

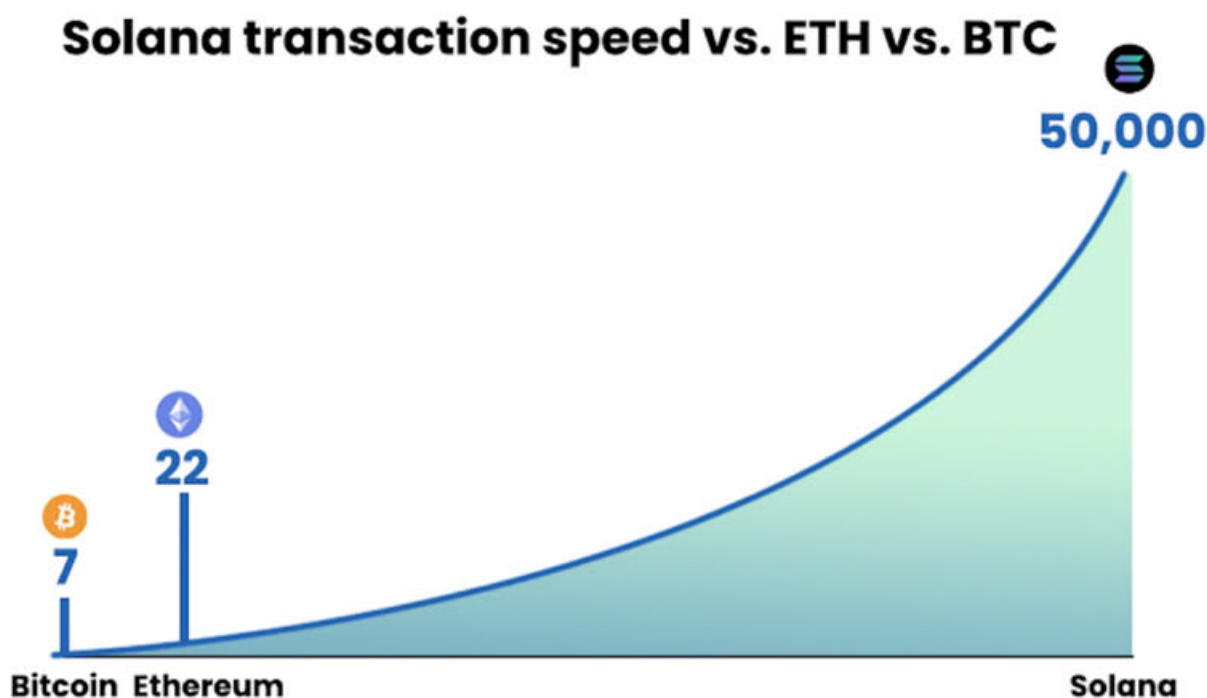
The project launched in 2020 with the aim of addressing speed and cost in the cryptoconomy (and, in turn, in the wider economy).

For years now, the two largest cryptocurrencies in the world have stayed the largest: Bitcoin at #1, Ethereum at #2.

Both have humungous global followings. But both also suffer from a speed and/or cost issue. Bitcoin, for instance, processes between 3.5 and 7 transactions per second, at a cost of tens of dollars per transaction. Ethereum is running at about 15 to 17 transactions per second. Costs that were once tens or even hundreds of dollars per transaction are now down to less than a dollar after a series of upgrades. (Depending on network congestion, ETH fees can still spike to tens of dollars.)

As for Solana... as I write this, the network is processing more than 4,000 transactions every second—and theoretically can accommodate 50,000. To put that in perspective, the Visa network on which a global credit-card systems function, processes about 1,700 transactions per second. And the cost of transactions on Solana? Fractions of a penny.

But that's soon to change.



*Solana until recently has had a theoretical limit of 50,000 transactions per second... already much faster than bitcoin, Ethereum, or even the Visa network. But a new upgrade will 20x Solana's power.*

Solana is currently rolling out an upgrade that will make the network capable of operating at 1 million transactions per second. Nothing in the modern financial world moves at such speed.

The technology behind the upgrade has already been proven in testing, and it's already working in limited fashion on Solana's so-called mainnet, where all the daily Solana transactions happen. In fact, not long ago I was scanning the Solana blockchain and captured a moment when the developers were clearly working on something because transactions per second topped more than 96,000.

At a million transactions per second, companies all over the world are going to be interested in incorporating Solana's network into their business because of the speed and cost savings they'll achieve. I'm talking about:

- Financial companies providing banking, lending, and investing services.
- Retailers that want speedier, more-secure, and more cost-efficient transactions.
- Companies that will build services that, say, hospitals will use to monitor patient care remotely, improve traceability of patient data, and streamline the claims process while empowering patients to control their own healthcare data and share it instantly as needed.
- Gaming companies and gambling sites that demand speed, security, and minimal costs, while allowing players to own in-game assets that they can use, lend for a fee, or sell to other players, thereby opening up new revenue models for companies and gamers.

Those represent just a tiny, tiny taste of what's coming. And Solana will help bring all of that to our daily reality when transactions are so fast that a million can occur in a single second.

Already Solana has begun to attract major names, including Visa, PayPal, Shopify, Stripe, Meta, Google, and others that are now looking to incorporate Solana's blockchain into their operations. Moreover, developers are flooding into the Solana ecosystem these days at a rate faster than on Ethereum, the #2 blockchain. That's a glaring indication that Solana has emerged as a more attractive platform for building out the products and services that will remake our lives the same way that the internet itself remade our lives starting in the early 2000s.

In short, I expect that Solana will emerge as the most important daily-use blockchain for consumers and businesses.

Here's what I mean by that...

The financial services industry is rapidly moving toward blockchain technology as its back-office infrastructure. Right now, if you stop into a gas station for a fill-up and a Slurpee, you tap your debit card and machinations begin that traverse the traditional finance world, pulling money from your bank account and depositing it, days later, into the merchant's bank account.

In a blockchain world, that same transaction happens exactly the same for you and the merchant, at least outwardly, meaning the process of paying for gas and a Slurpee looks identical.

Behind the scenes, however, it's very much different. The entire transaction happens on the blockchain. It's more secure than current technology. It's less expensive. And it's magnitudes faster in that money leaves your wallet immediately and immediately lands in the merchant's wallet; the current technology requires days for a transaction to fully complete.

But the changes to the financial world now emerging will go far beyond buying gas and a Slurpee at a mini-mart. Fidelity, BlackRock, and others are looking to move all assets onto the blockchain, meaning you'll soon be buying and selling stocks, bonds, commodities, currencies, even houses, on the blockchain. That trading will happen 24/7/365, rather than during prescribed, weekday hours.

Robinhood, the discount-brokerage smartphone app, announced it's looking at Solana to help facilitate a project that will allow European retail investors to trade US stocks as "tokenized assets." Translation: Robinhood will allow everyday investors in Europe to trade Apple, Microsoft, Merck and all the other US stocks as blockchain-based digital tokens.

Doing so would reduce costs because it eliminates the middleman between investors and the stock market. It also reduces trade-settlement times to seconds or hours instead of days.

This is the world we're rapidly racing toward—one in which everything we do in our personal financial lives will happen on the blockchain. You and I won't necessarily be aware of that. And we won't necessarily care. Our debit and credit cards will work the same as always. We'll be buying the same stocks and bonds and mutual funds. We'll save our money the same way, though we will have far more options.

The only difference is that, behind the curtain, all of our transactions will occur on the blockchain—at far faster speed, far cheaper costs, and far more securely.

And Solana is going to be one of the most important blockchains bringing this vision to fruition. Behind the scenes, everything will be running on the Solana network, even if you're paying for that Slurpee or buying stocks or whatever using your regular ol' fiat-currency credit/debit card and bank account.

So, why do we want to own the Solana coin?

Demand for the network means demand for the coin. The coin is the operating currency of the network. Fees that users pay to operate on the blockchain are paid in Solana. For instance, I'm active in [a digital horse-racing game called \*Photo Finish Live\*](#), and every time I add money to my digital wallet, I'm paying a small fee of a few cents. That fee is denominated in Solana, meaning I need to own Solana in my wallet.

Apply that concept to hundreds of millions if not billions of transactions per year once Solana is running at a million transactions per second, and soon enough we're talking about a lot of people and a lot of companies that need to own Solana in their wallet to facilitate all those transactions.

That demand will drive Solana's price higher over time.

**RECOMMENDATION: Buy Solana (symbol: SOL) at prices up to \$105 per coin.**

**Risk: Venture Investing. (What does this mean? Before you act, read a full breakdown of my five-level risk assessment scale [here](#).)**

Because SOL is one of the most heavily traded cryptocurrencies globally, you can find it trading on every major and minor crypto exchange in the world. Plus, you'll find it available on PayPal, as well as brokerage firm apps including Robinhood and Webull.

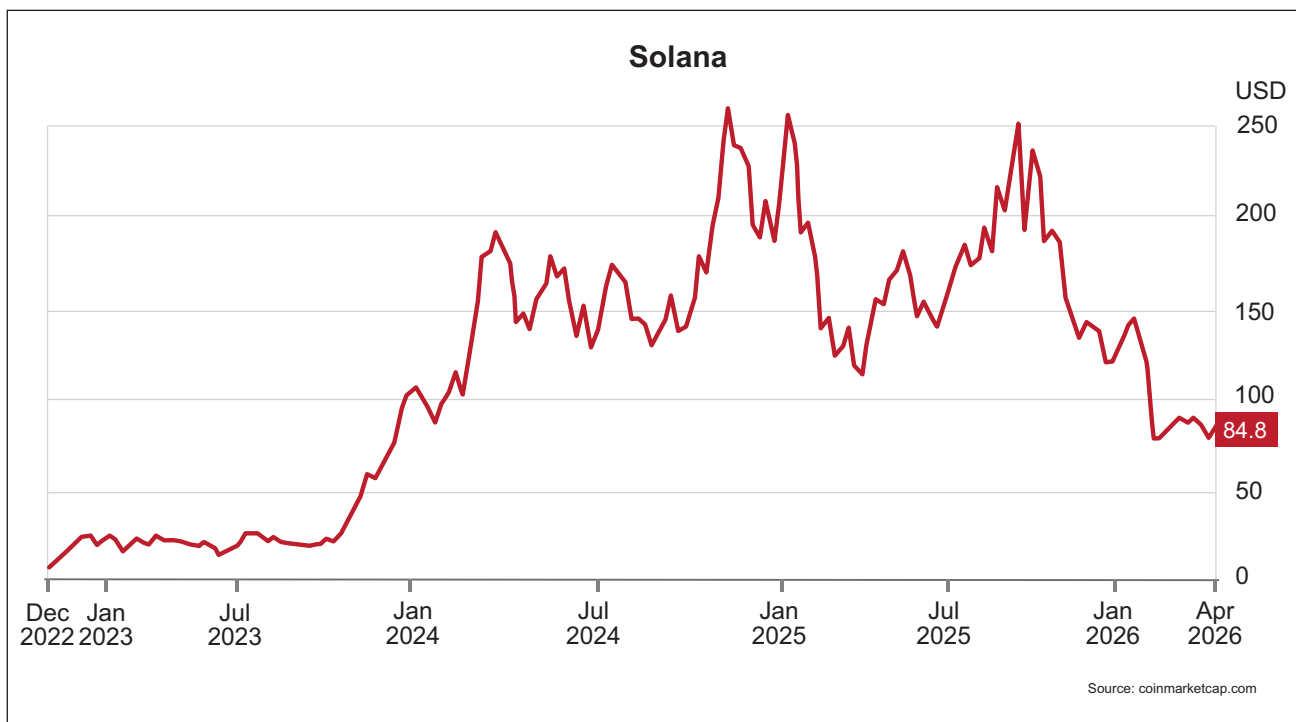
I use Coinbase, one of the world's largest crypto-specific exchanges. Other exchanges including Kraken and Gemini as equally as good.

See Part II of this report for details on setting up a Coinbase account.

## **Risks and Rewards: Expect Wild Swings... Wait for the Payoff**

Crypto prices can move up and down by large amounts and with numbing velocity. Solana is a great example. SOL's price raced from less than \$10 per coin in late 2022 to nearly \$300 early in 2025... only to sink to \$95 in a few months... which then sparked a rally back above \$180.

It's about \$84 as I write this.



*I called the bottom on Solana in January 2023, and it subsequently had an amazing price run-up. But we're still early in SOL's story—and it's still a good time to buy. (The chart shows end-of-day prices; but even during any given day, prices can bounce considerably.)*

You absolutely must know that you have a cast-iron stomach before you act on this recommendation. I can guarantee that Solana's price will whipsaw.

If you make this trade, I do not want you to get pushed out of the position because a temporary decline triggers an arbitrary stop-loss order. Nor do I want you to push yourself out of a position in Solana because of personal nervousness at the red ink you see.

You really do have to go into Solana (or any crypto) knowing that you're only putting at risk an amount of money you absolutely can lose without disrupting your life... and that you are not going to sell out in knee-jerk panic when the price plunges (temporarily) on some exogenous factor like events in the news.

We'll be looking to hold SOL for a few years.

Longer term (end of the decade), I have a target price of \$1,000 on SOL as the Solana blockchain emerges as the backbone of daily finance.

## Pick No. 3. Render Network— The Decentralized Graphics Play

Imagine this: You're walking down the street and from around the corner, a dragon pops out and roars at you. He stomps on a nearby car and crushes it. You turn and flee in the opposite direction, all the while rooting through a leather satchel at your side looking for the weapon you'll need to battle the holographic beast.

This is what's going to happen to gaming—holographic games that seem as real as the world around you. In fact, the games will unfold in the real world you inhabit. The streets of New York, say, or maybe the cornfields of Iowa, where you're taking part in a horror-based game and you're

being chased by a deranged scarecrow with a bloody machete. (The [Pokemon Go](#) craze of a few years ago was just the precursor...)

All of this will be happening through VR/AR glasses or goggles.

And it will all take place because of the power of Render Network.

Render is part of a crypto trend known as decentralized physical infrastructure, or DePIN.

Unlike the old analog world where, say, a utility company controlled all access to a service—DePIN involves the creation of platforms where you and me—and billions of people like us—can contribute some piece of infrastructure to a larger network of infrastructure that powers a particular service.

Render has created a network of unused or under-utilized graphics processing units (GPUs) all over the world and corralled them into what might best be called a “hive.”

Essentially, Render is a decentralized platform that connects users requiring graphical rendering power with providers who have idle GPU capacity.

GPUs are the pieces of equipment inside a computer that allow you to see what’s on the screen. They process the digital signals and turn them into visuals on your computer screen, be it words, video games, or streaming movies. They tend to be fastest components inside a computer in terms of processing power.

Its hive of GPUs makes Render’s network highly desirable for projects that need extremely fast rendering, or the process of turning digital data into visuals. Slow rendering is what you get when you’re streaming a video on your phone and the screen suddenly goes fuzzy. It’s a problem with “latency” or basically lag.

Low-latency is the holy grail. The lower the better.

Demand for what Render does is explosive. AI and DePIN can’t function without GPU access, which plays into Render’s business model. Both of those are taking off.

A typical Render Network process might look like this: An independent movie production needs to render a feature-length film quickly. Instead of taking days to process the rendering in-house on a single GPU, they assign the task to Render.

In turn, Render assigns the task to multiple GPUs that are part of the Render hive all over the world. The assignment—the digital film—is effectively broken up into different tranches and each tranche heads to a different GPU. Each GPU renders its assigned portion, thus allowing the full film to be processed in hours rather than days.

Similar processes are going to become increasingly necessary as we move into AR, VR, and AI.

Render is actively onboarding enterprise-grade GPUs, the big guns needed for AI processing and for video processing on the fly for gaming as well as artificial and virtual reality, which are also explosive growth areas.

AR and VR need low-latency rendering to process visuals and graphics on the fly, like the dragon-game example I mentioned above. It will help as well with holographic imagery as that becomes more the norm over the next several years.

As for AI, that requires vast amounts of processing power to formulate answers and solutions to questions and problems in real time. Again, that’s a process for GPUs because of the speed.

But AI demands are so gargantuan that they need multiple GPUs strung together to function with speed and efficiency.

As such, Render sits at the forefront of the biggest trends that are reshaping technology, society, gaming, and streaming today.

**RECOMMENDATION: Buy Render Network (symbol: RENDER) at prices up to \$6.**

**Risk: Venture Investing.** (What does this mean? Before you act, read a full breakdown of my five-level risk assessment scale [here](#).)

You can buy Render through Coinbase. See the next section for details on setting up a Coinbase account.

## Risks and Rewards With Render

Render is a necessary crypto-infrastructure play, in my view, not a speculative token as such.

From current prices in the \$1.35 range, Render could easily 10x from here. In the right AI-fueled scenario, Render could be a \$20 to \$25 token.

There's just not a lot of negatives with Render.

That said, this is crypto. Volatility is a feature of this asset class, not a bug.

There's always the chance that an exogenous event drags down the market—or a specific token doesn't take off for other reasons.

For me, a small bet on a token like Render—which is so clearly focused on a fast-emerging, very real future—is worth the risk, for the chance of outsized reward.

With Render—and with any of the plays in this report—I recommend you sell half your position if you reach a point where you are up 100%.

That way, you recoup your original investment—and can let the rest ride to capture any future gains.

# PART II:

## How to Own and Hold My Recommended Cryptos

If you want to buy bitcoin, Ethereum, or a selection of other well-known cryptos, you have numerous easy options.

You can trade cryptos like these through payment providers like PayPal or Venmo, through a stock trading app such as Robinhood or Webull, or through one of the major crypto exchanges like Binance.US or Coinbase.

Coinbase, Crypto.com, Binance.US, Gemini, and Kraken are examples of centralized crypto exchanges (CEXs). These are like the Fidelity, or Charles Schwab, or E\*Trade of the cryptoconomy.

They are centrally controlled, corporate organizations that verify account holders, accept debit and credit cards, and have customer service teams.

Centralized exchanges act as custodians. They monitor the transfer of funds and they hold the crypto assets on your behalf (until you want to sell or withdraw them).

In this report, I'm going to provide you with a step-by-step guide to using a recommended CEX, Coinbase, and to setting up your own crypto wallet.

Read on for all the details on how to trade my recommended cryptos...

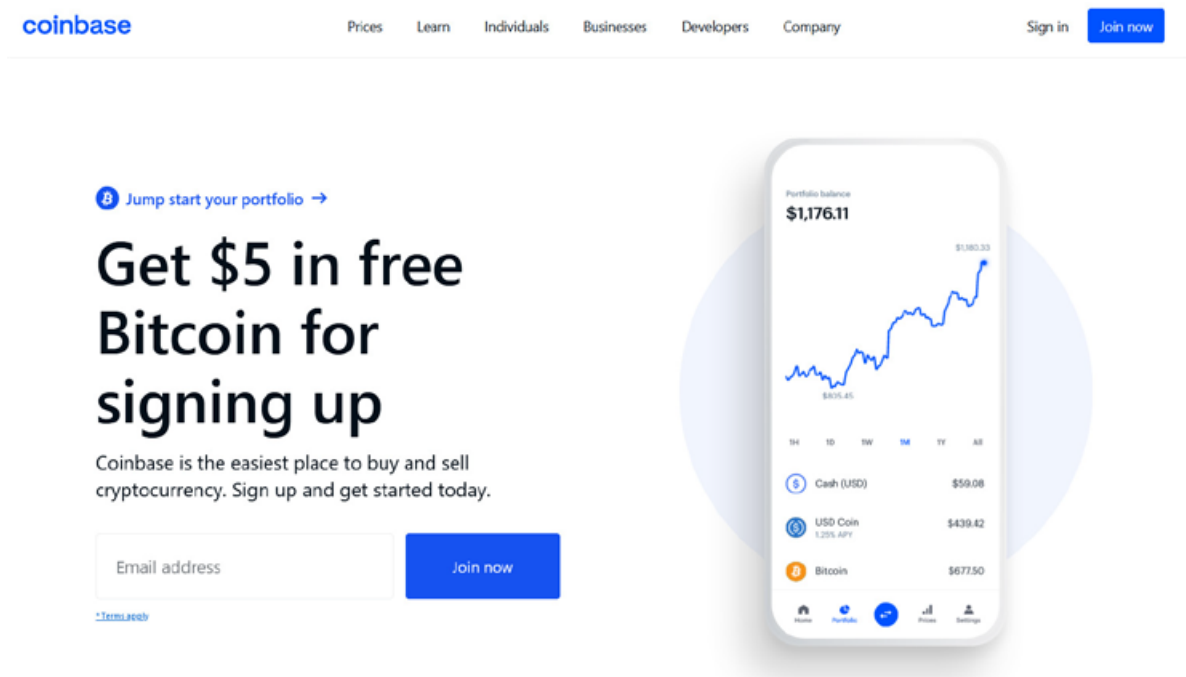
# Setting Up a Coinbase Account

The exchange I recommend for most US residents is Coinbase, one of the largest crypto exchanges in the world. However, just know that Coinbase is not available in every state. If you find out you're living in one of those states, then use Gemini.

The setup process will be similar if you use another CEX.

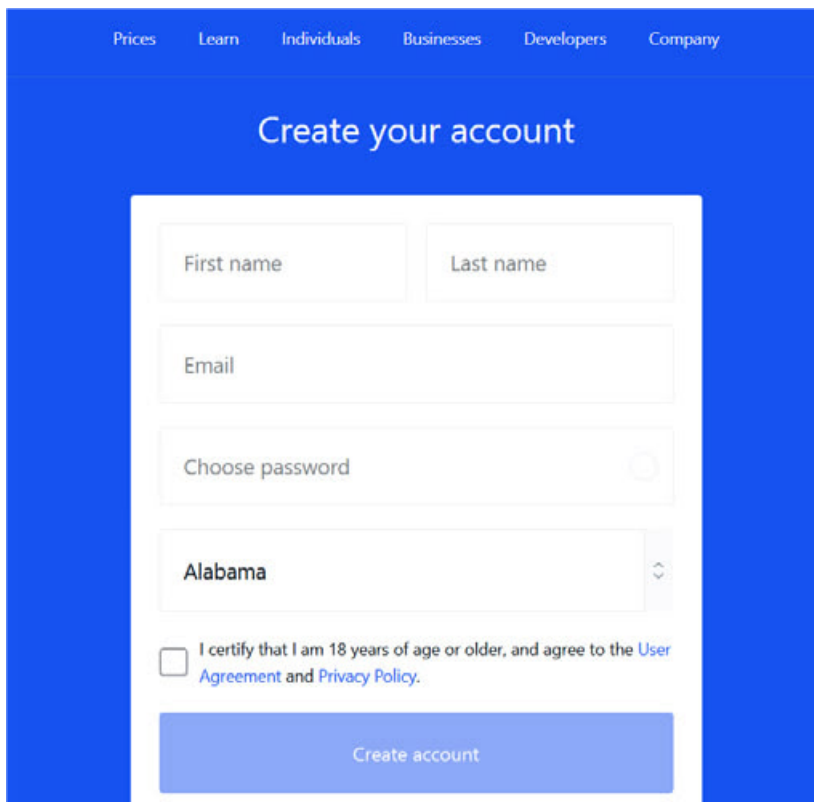
**Note:** Crypto exchanges regularly update their sign-up and log-in processes, so the screenshots in the following sections may not reflect your experience exactly. However, the following guides should give you a robust understanding of these systems and how they operate.

The first step: Head to [Coinbase.com](https://Coinbase.com) and you'll see the homepage...

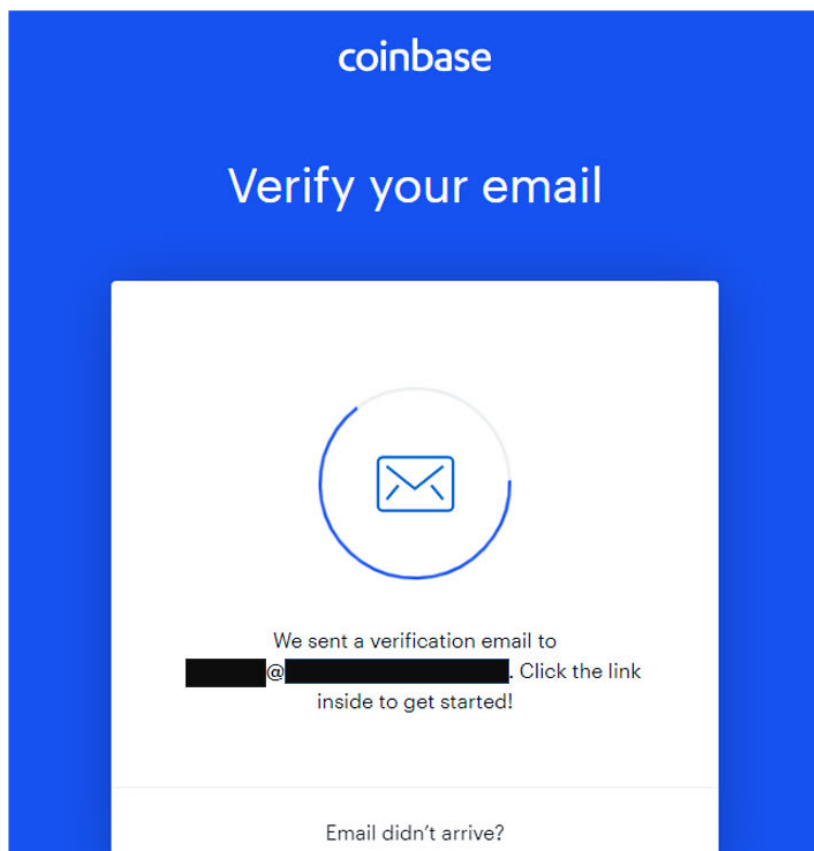


Insert your email address and click "Join Now."

That will take you to this page...



Fill in your information, choose a password, tick the box, and then click “Create account.” Coinbase will then need to verify your email. So, you will see this pop up:



At this point, go to your email account and look for an email from Coinbase.

It will look something like this...



Click on the “Verify Email Address” in blue and a new page will open on your internet browser for you to continue the registration process.

That begins with setting up your two-step verification process. (This is an important security measure—though ultimately we are going to change this after the account is open.)

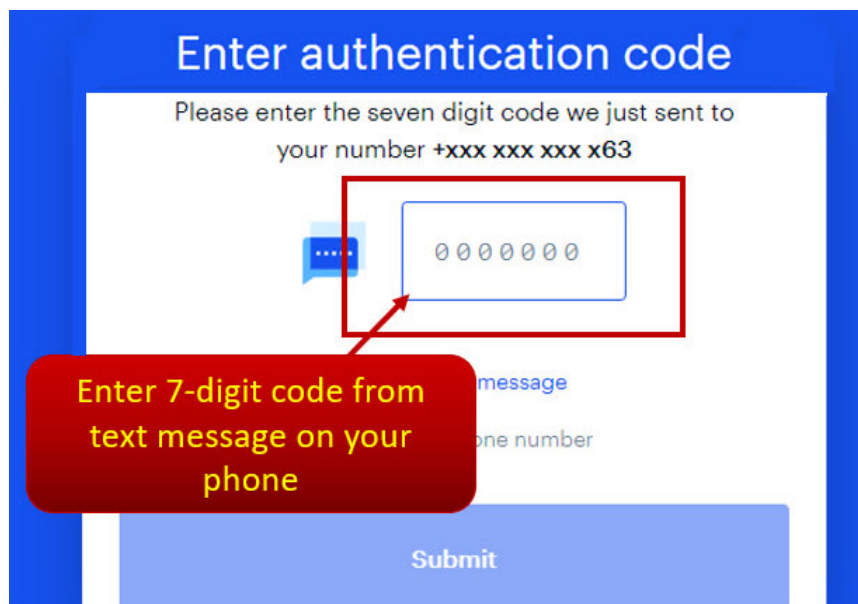
Two-step verification helps ensure safety. Every time you make a change to your account, or trade or move money, Coinbase will send you a code to verify the change or transaction.

That way, if anyone other than you tries to tamper with your account, they can't because they don't have the necessary codes that Coinbase will send to you.



Simply fill in your phone number and click on “Send code.” (By the way, if you live outside the US, you can change the country through the drop-down box to the right. It will automatically populate your phone number with the correct country code.)

Once you click “Send code,” this page will pop up...



Coinbase will send you a text message with a seven-digit code, so you will need your phone handy.

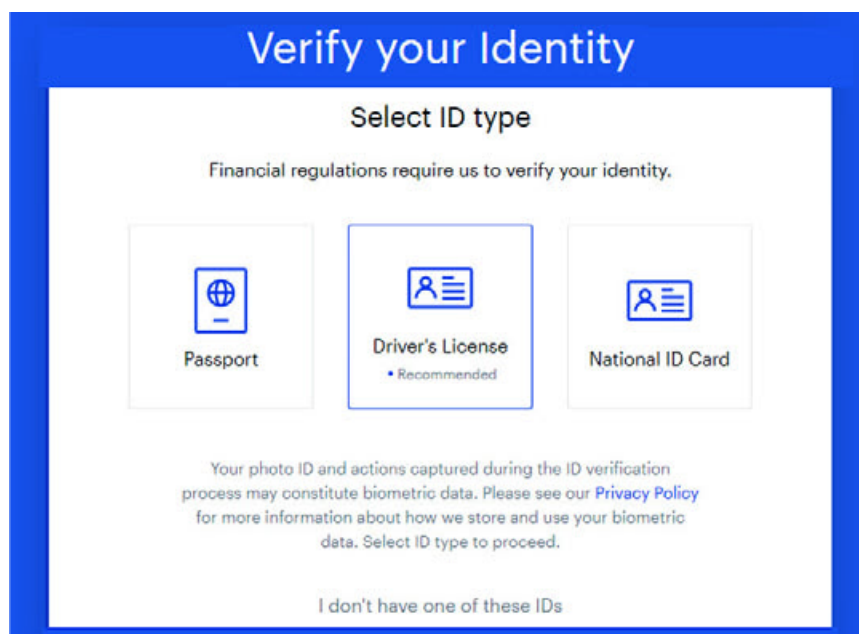
Once the text message arrives, type the code into the box and click “Submit.”

At this point, a series of boxes will pop up, asking you for basic information about yourself: Your citizenship, name, birthday, and address. Coinbase will also want to know what you will use the account for and where you are obtaining the funds you will use to buy crypto. You will also have to tell Coinbase how much crypto you expect to trade in a year and what industry you work in.

These are all basic, Know Your Customer rules, or KYC. Every financial firm, whether crypto or a traditional brokerage account, asks these same questions.

Once you get past that, you will have to verify your identity.

This page will appear...



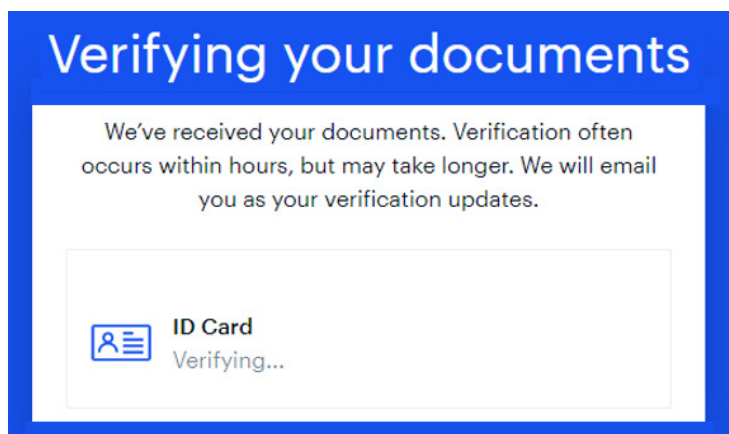
Click on the document that you wish to use to verify your identity.

That will lead you to the next page, where you will upload photos of the identity document you've chosen.

If you have a printer with a scanner at home, scan your document and save it to your computer. If you only have your phone, then snap a photo of the document.

You may have to upload the front and back of the document.

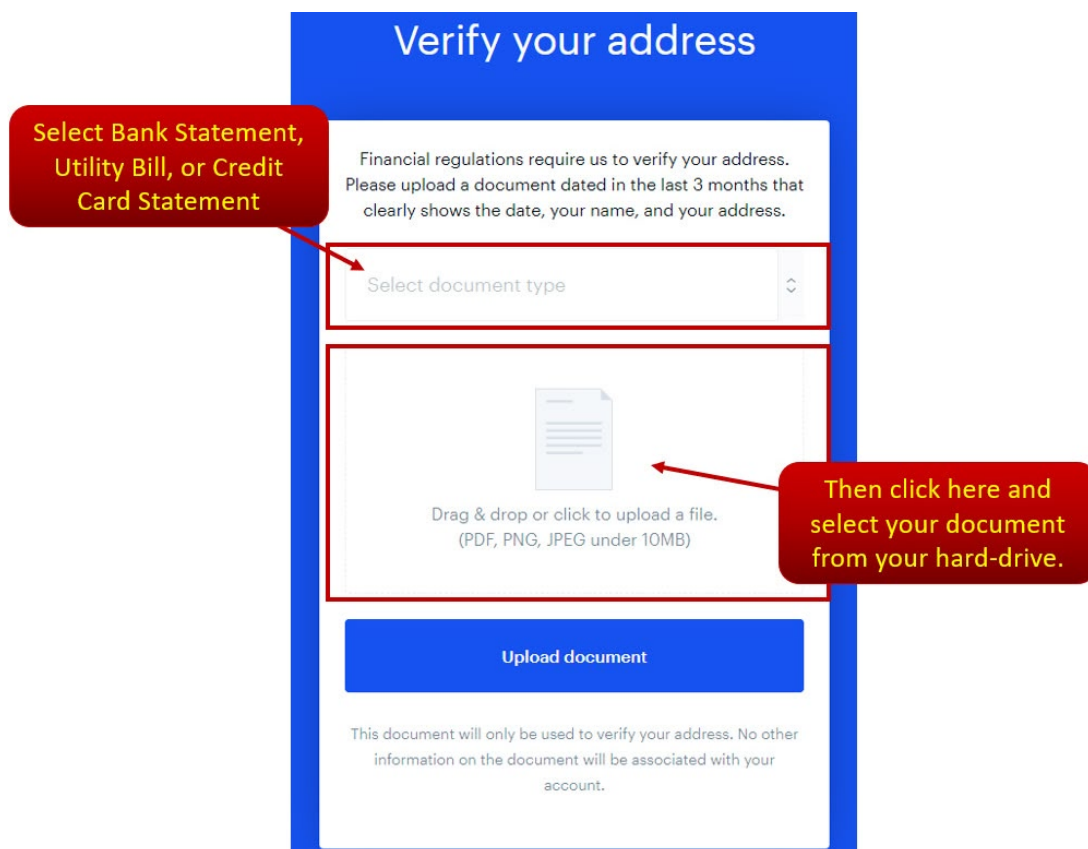
Once you've attached the appropriate ID photos, click "Upload" and this page will appear...



At this stage, Coinbase will stop the account-opening process until it verifies and approves your document. That could take a few minutes, a few hours, or 24 hours. When Coinbase has verified your identity, you will receive an email alerting you to that fact.

Log back into your Coinbase account and it should automatically pick up where you left off.

This is the page you will see...

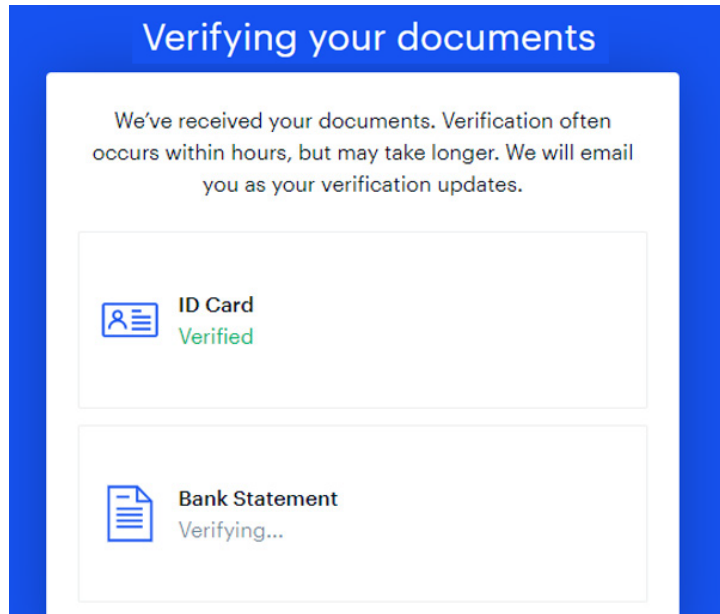


Here, you will need to verify your address. In the drop-down box at the top, you will have three options: Bank statement, utility bill, or credit card statement. As with your photo ID, you will need to attach a copy here.

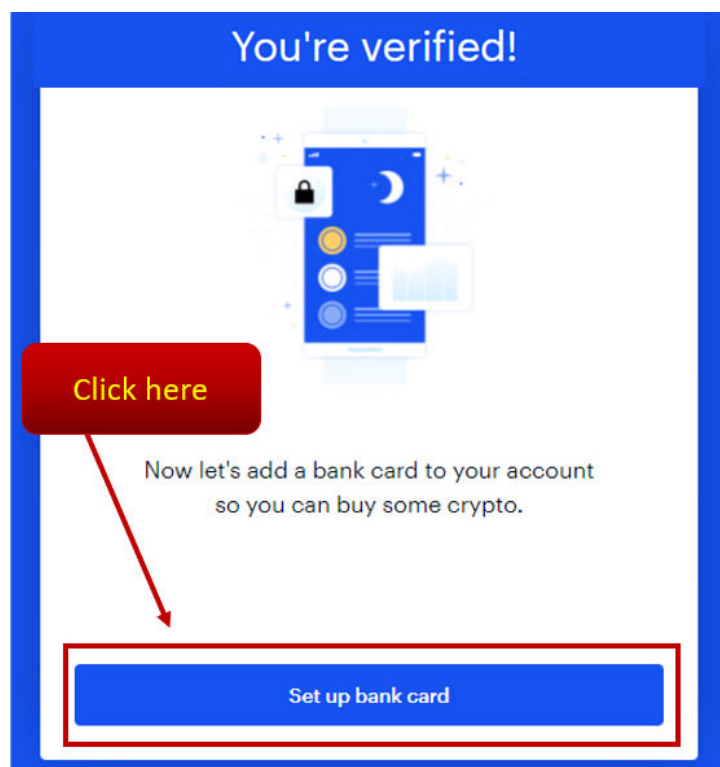
Again, you can either scan the document and save it to your computer, or take a photo with your phone. Frankly, it's a bit easier to scan your document, if you have that capability. There's less chance that something gets cut off, or is blurry.

Attach the document and then click on "Upload document."

That will bring you to this page, where again the process stops for a while until Coinbase verifies your document...



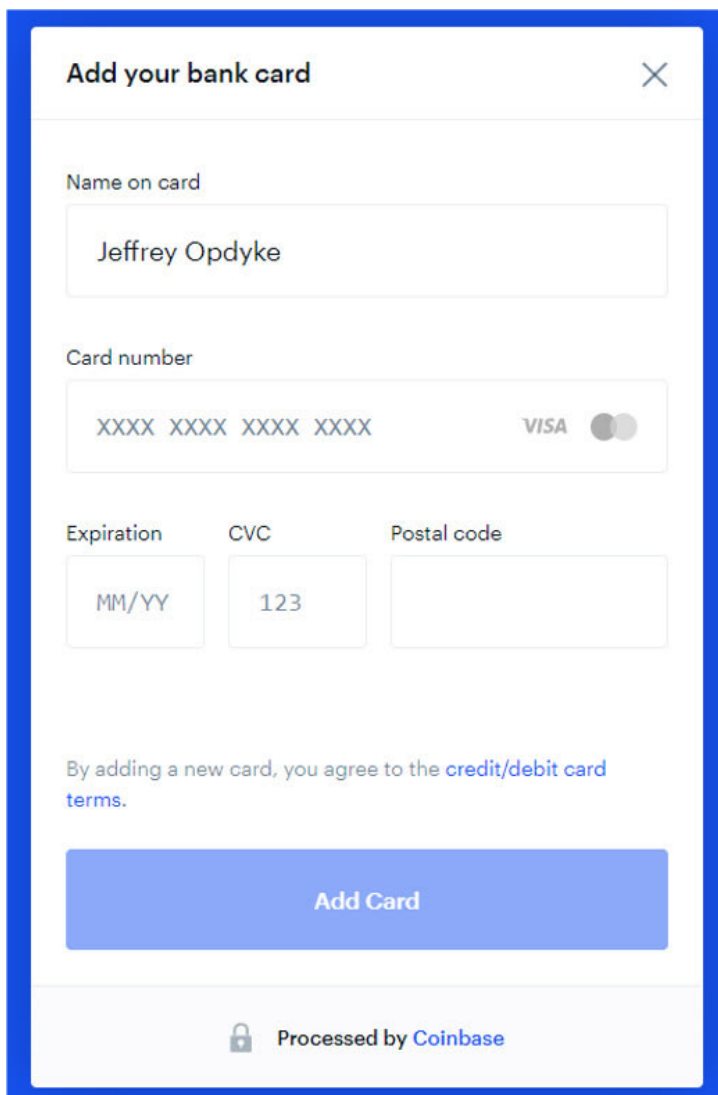
Once they're verified, you will receive another email. Log back into your account and you will see this:



Now it's time to set up your method for funding the account...

You will have a couple of options, including linking your account to a bank debit card or (if you're in the US) linking your Coinbase account directly to your bank through the ACH process. That's the Automated Clearing House process that financial institutions use for moving money around.

I clicked on "Set up bank card." That goes to this page (but note, if you use ACH, your page will look slightly different):



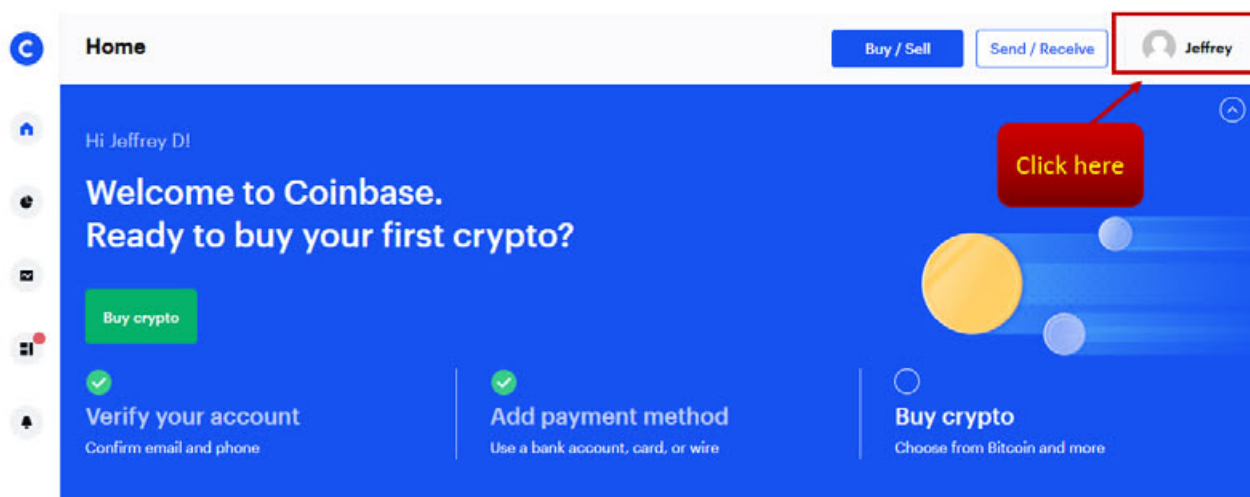
The screenshot shows a form titled "Add your bank card" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The form contains the following fields and elements:

- Name on card:** A text input field containing "Jeffrey Opdyke".
- Card number:** A text input field containing "XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX" and a "VISA" logo with a toggle switch.
- Expiration:** A text input field containing "MM/YY".
- CVC:** A text input field containing "123".
- Postal code:** An empty text input field.

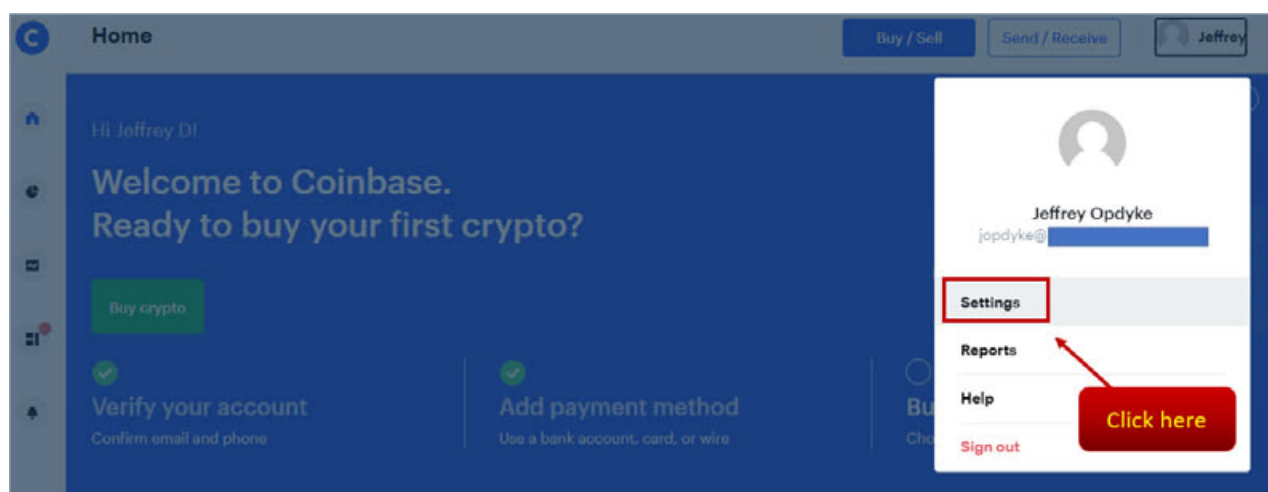
Below the input fields, there is a line of text: "By adding a new card, you agree to the [credit/debit card terms](#)." Below this is a large blue button labeled "Add Card". At the bottom of the form, there is a lock icon and the text "Processed by Coinbase".

Once you've filled in all the information, click "Add Card" and you're done. Your Coinbase account is ready to go.

You will see this page appear...



Now, earlier I mentioned we're going to change the two-step security process. To do this, click on your name in the top right corner, and then click on "Settings." That looks like this...



On the Settings page, we want to set up a stronger version of two-step verification. To do so, we're going to connect your Coinbase account to an authenticator app.

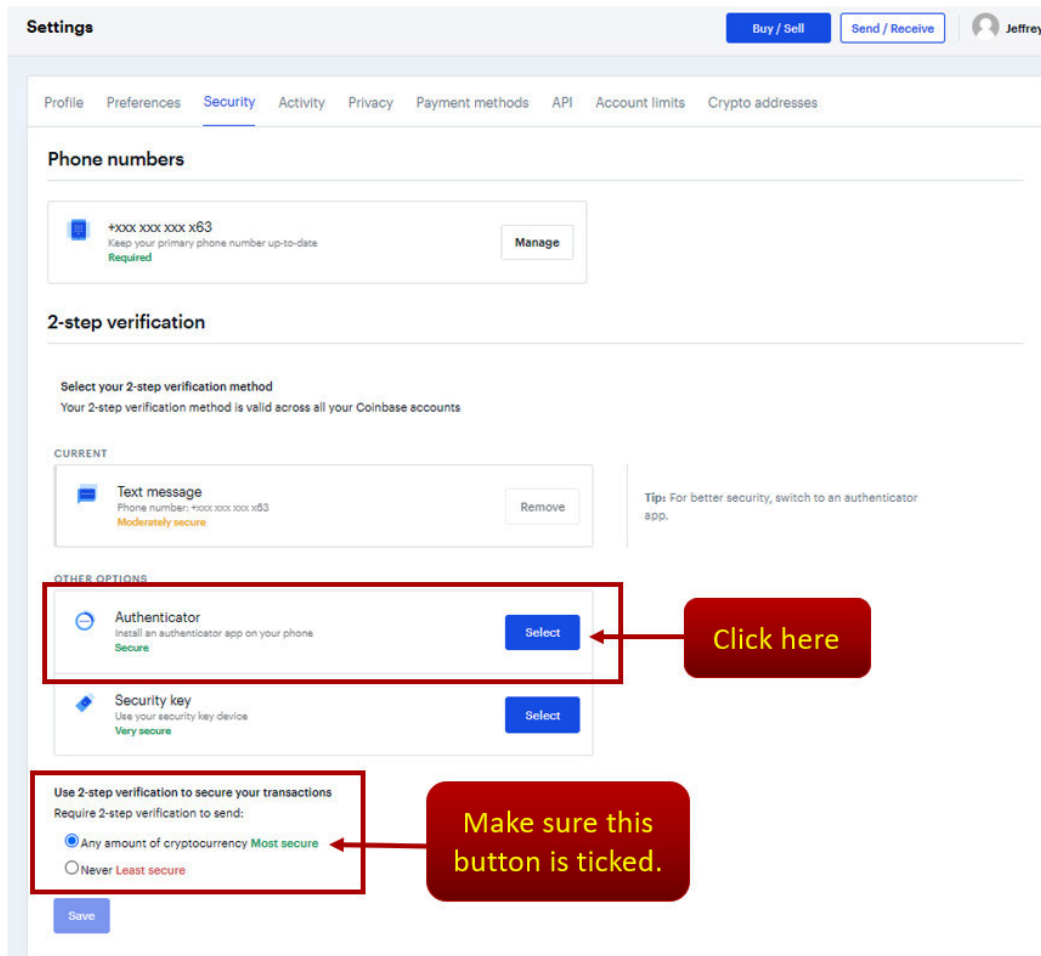
If you're unfamiliar with authenticators, they're smartphone apps that create an ever-changing stream of random, six-digit numbers that you can link to various accounts. They're much more secure than a text message because phone numbers can be illegally reassigned. As such, someone could effectively steal your phone number without you realizing it, have your text code sent to the new phone, tap into your account, and drain it.

With an authenticator app, they would need to physically have your phone in their hands to access the app and the code.

To set up this authenticator verification, have your phone handy and make sure you have an authenticator app installed. I use Google Authenticator. You can find it on the iPhone App or Google Play stores.

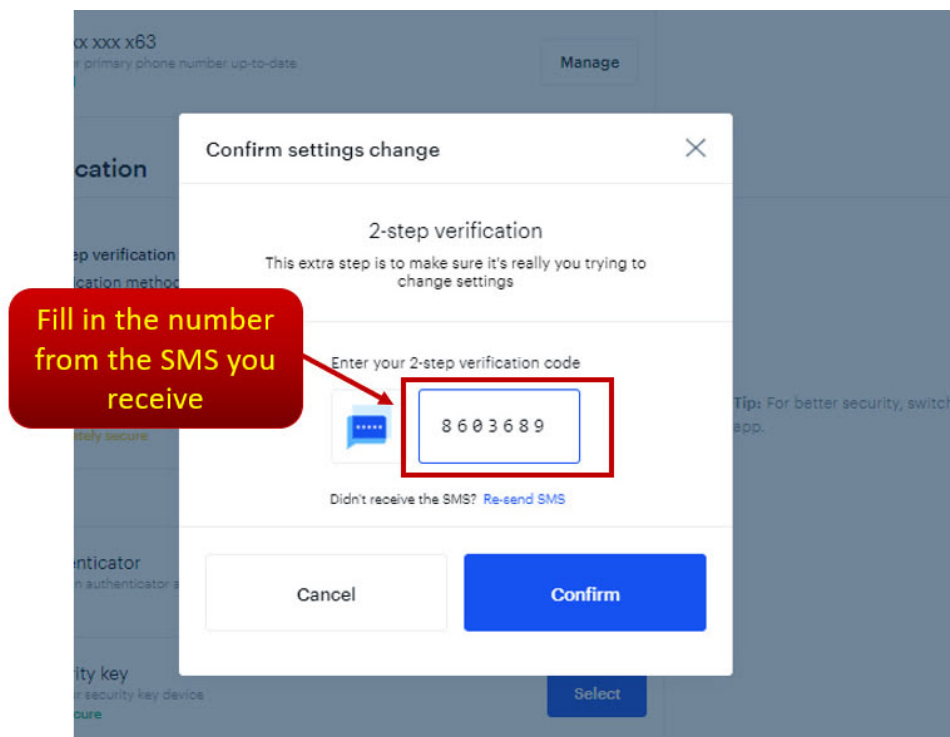
Before you click on "Select," make sure that the radio button next to "Any amount of cryptocurrency" is ticked. This way, every transaction in your account will require two-step verification.

Now, click on “Select” to the right of Authenticator.

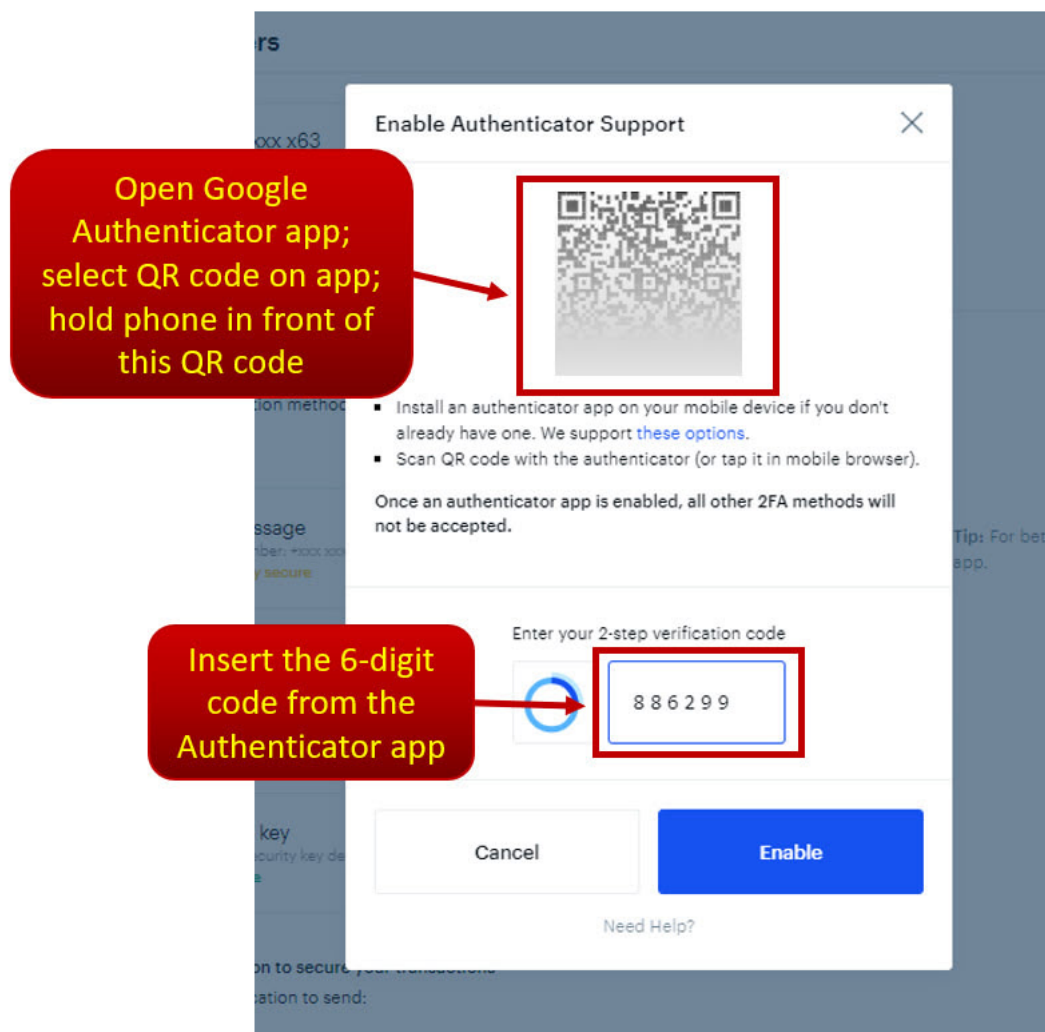


Doing so will take you to this page.

Coinbase will automatically send you a text message with a seven-digit code. Type that code into the box, then click Confirm.



Once you do that, you will see this.



At this point, you need your smartphone.

Open your authenticator app to add a new code. With Google Authenticator, you do that by clicking the rainbow-hued “+” sign in the lower right corner.

Then, select “Scan a QR code.” Your phone will open a camera screen with a green box in the middle.

Point your phone at the QR code on your computer (the box of black-and-white squares).

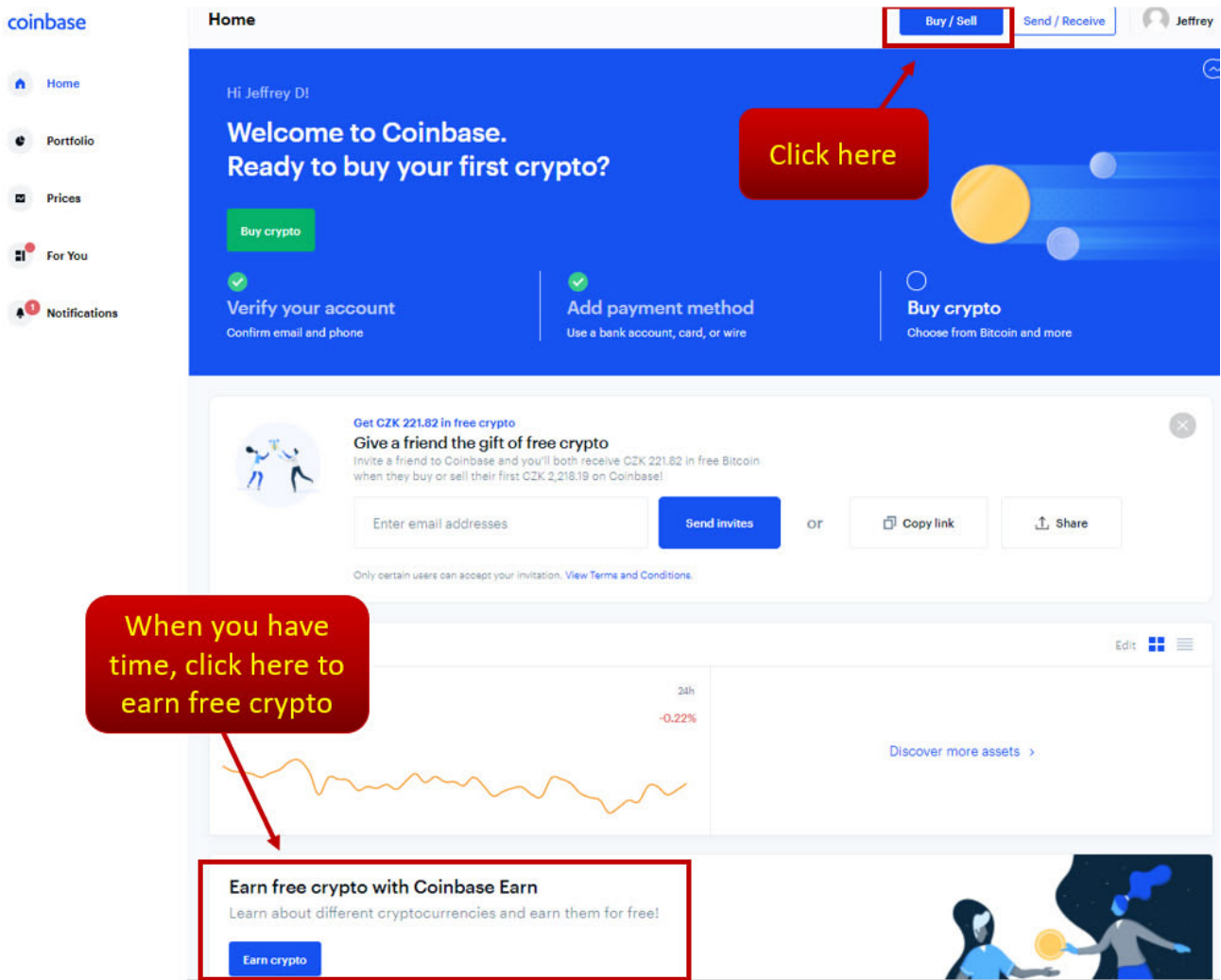
The authenticator app will instantly connect and will display the name of the service it is now connected to, and it will display a string of numbers.

Insert those numbers into the lower box and click “Enable.” Be fairly quick about this.

Because of that QR code, Coinbase knows the numbers that will always pop up on your phone, and those numbers change every few seconds. If you dillydally, the code will change and Coinbase will know this and reject the link. If that happens, just insert the new code that pops up and click “Enable.”

Now, you’re ready to make your first trade!

Your homepage should look something like this...



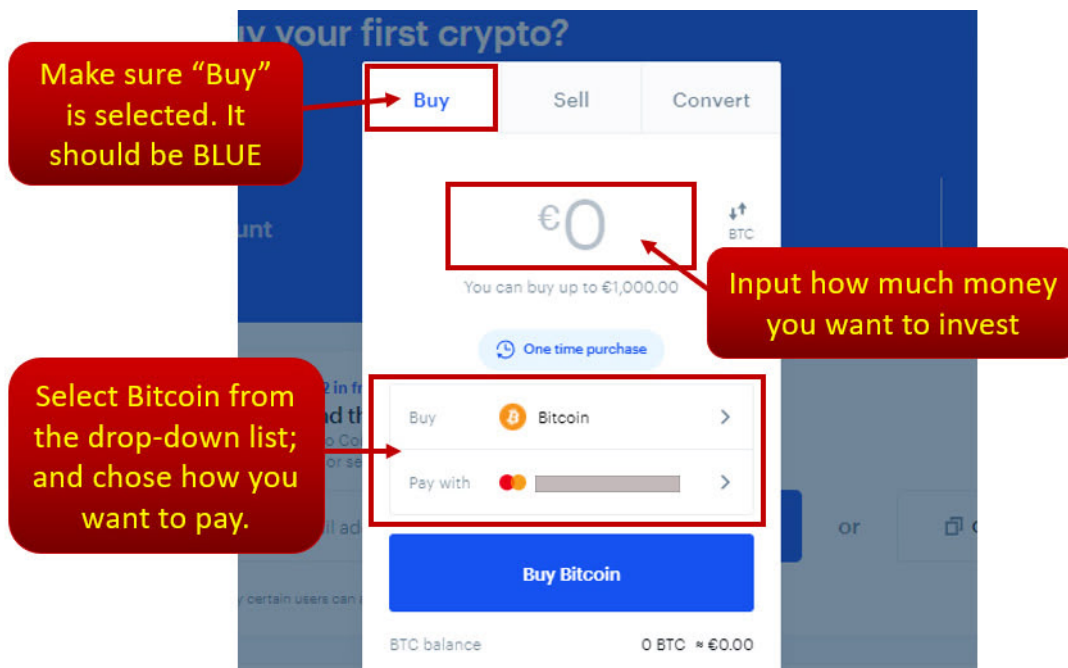
On the top right, click on “Buy/Sell.”

**Note:** When you have time, click on the “Earn free crypto” link at the bottom of the page.

Coinbase runs an educational program that teaches you about different cryptocurrencies, what they do, how they work, etc. Each is a series of one- to two-minute lessons. After each lesson, you are asked a single question about that lesson; get it right and you earn \$1 to \$2 worth of that coin. It’s a nice feature for learning about all the different types of crypto projects.

In this example, we’re going to buy some bitcoin, but the process is the same for all cryptocurrencies.

Click on the Buy/Sell link and you will end up on this page...



Click on the “Buy” tab (it should be blue).

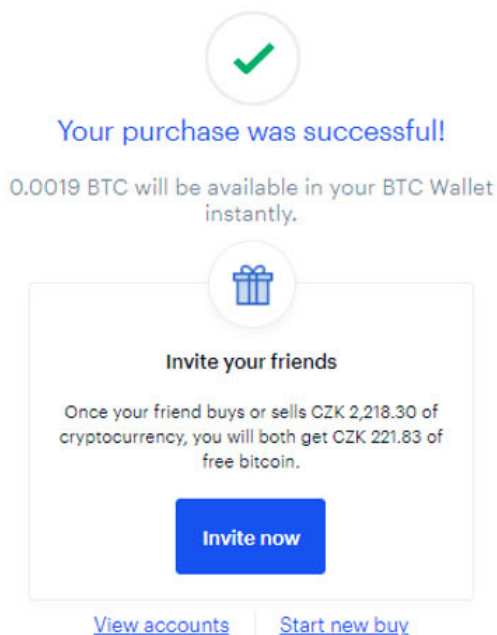
Then, fill in the dollar amount you wish to invest (mine shows up as euros since I live in Europe). You have an option here: You can choose to invest a specific amount of dollars, or if you click the little, gray “BTC” to the right, just below the arrows, the purchase function changes to “amount of BTC” you want to buy.

This way, if you want to buy a specific amount of bitcoin—one-hundredth, one-tenth, or more—you don’t have to guess at the dollar amount.

I left mine on currency for this trade. I’ll buy €100 worth of bitcoin.

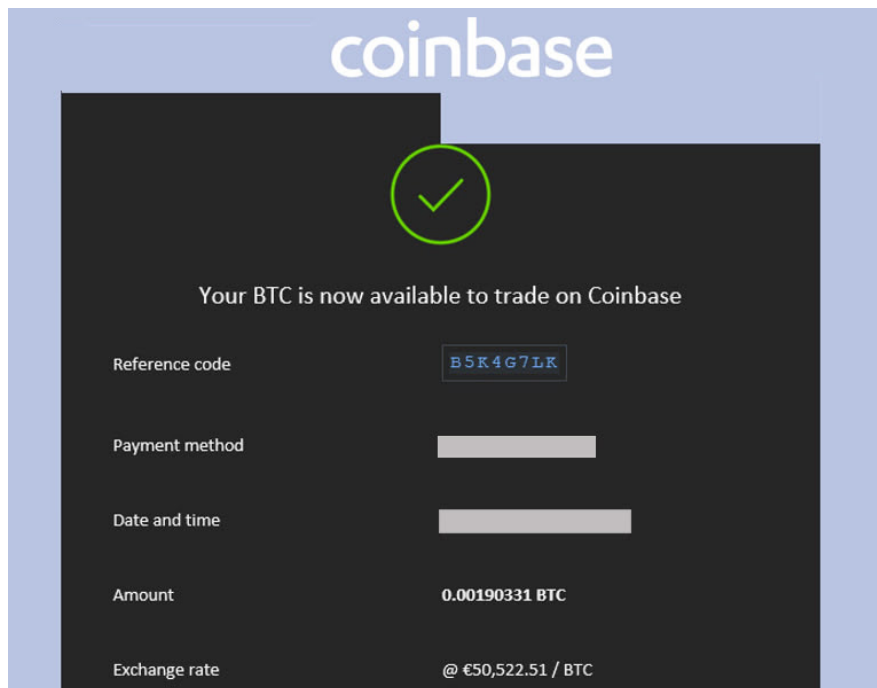
Fill in the amount, make sure the drop-down box has “Bitcoin” selected, and choose how you will pay for the purchase.

With those all filled in correctly, click on “Buy Bitcoin,” and after a moment this pops up...



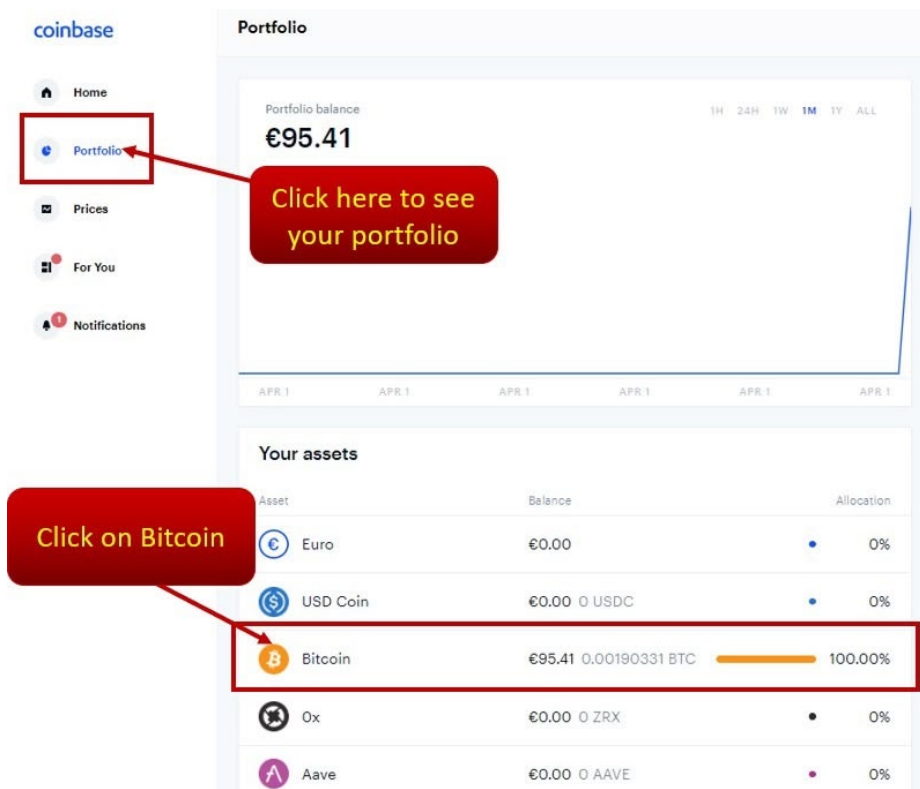
Congratulations! You now own this bitcoin.

You will also receive a confirmation email from Coinbase.



It will show you exactly how much bitcoin you bought, and at what price.

You can then check your portfolio by clicking on "Portfolio" on your home page.



## Where Do I Store My Bitcoin?

If you own bitcoin at a brokerage firm, you have no choice in the matter. Your bitcoin remains with the firm. You can see it listed in your account, and you can buy more or sell what you have, but you cannot move your bitcoin around.

If you own bitcoin through PayPal or an exchange, then you have two options.

### 1. Leave your bitcoin in your trading account on the exchange.

This is very similar to brokerage firms in that your bitcoin is not directly held by you.

It's in your name and you can sell it as you wish, but you don't technically have possession of your crypto. Lots of investors, however, do simply leave their bitcoin in their trading account.

### 2. Store your bitcoin in a crypto wallet.

Frankly, "wallet" is a bit of a misnomer.

Crypto wallets are much more like bank accounts. Each wallet has a unique address (your account number) and a unique set of protections (something akin to your PIN) to keep people from stealing your bitcoin.

Bitcoin wallets—like all crypto wallets—are assigned a pair of keys: a **public key** and a **private key**. You must understand which is which so that you don't lose your crypto to nefarious actors on the internet.

- **Public keys:** This is the "wallet address" you share with others so that crypto can be deposited into your account. This is a one-way street: in-bound only. Anyone can have this address, yet they cannot access your crypto.

This is what a bitcoin wallet address looks like:

[12jcjT8wtr4JCKKmVSyEUpo3KyVt6UT1Es](#)

You will not have to memorize this address. You can retrieve it from your wallet when needed.

- **Private keys:** These you never want to share with anyone. This is essentially your account PIN number, and whoever has these keys would have access to your crypto.

Another way to think about public and private keys is to visualize a P.O. Box at your local post office.

Public keys are the address to your post office box. It's public information you share so that you can receive mail (in crypto world, it's how you receive bitcoin).

Your private keys, meanwhile, represent the physical keys that gain entry to that mailbox. Only you should ever have those.

There's a saying in the cryptosphere: If you don't own your keys (meaning private keys), you don't own your crypto.

Those keys are what I am getting at when I tell you that you don't own your crypto with Fidelity, Robinhood, and the like. Those firms do not give you a set of keys, since the bitcoin is kept in a large, shared pool.

When you trade through an exchange, however, you will have a set of keys. Thus, you own the bitcoin you buy. It is solely yours, and you can choose to move that bitcoin around and take it off the exchange if you wish.

Why take it off an exchange?

Security.

Too many hackers around the world are eager to find ways to exploit large pools of crypto. If such a pool is exploited at an exchange where you hold your bitcoin, you could lose your crypto. The firm might ultimately make you whole, but I don't want to test it.

At this point, you can leave your bitcoin in your Coinbase account, or you can transfer it to a wallet.

## Where Do I Get a Wallet?

Wallets come in many forms. Some are online, some are offline.

Many crypto exchanges offer their own wallets that you can link directly to that exchange and easily move your crypto back and forth as necessary. These are known as “hot wallets” because they are connected to the internet and immediately ready to send or receive crypto.

Other online, hot wallets exist as well that are not connected directly to a particular exchange. Instead, you buy your crypto at an exchange, then transfer it to your wallet by way of your public key.

Signing up for an online wallet is simple: just an email address and a password is typically all you need.

At the time you sign up, you will be given a “seed phrase” or a “recovery phrase.” Whatever you do—STOP!

### **Do not go any further until you do this:**

1. Write down the phrase onto a piece of paper.
2. Then, write it down a second, even a third time.
3. Next, store those pieces of paper in separate, secure places—a firebox at home, or a bank safe-deposit box, for example.

That phrase is your failsafe.

If you forget your password or lose/replace your phone or laptop, that phrase, inserted in the right order, will restore your wallet and everything you own in the wallet. Without that phrase, you cannot recover your account if you forget the password. For security reasons, there are no “reset password” options with wallets.

And there are some real horror stories.

A German programmer had amassed 7,002 bitcoins on a hard drive years ago, in the early days of bitcoin when it was trading at pennies. However, he forgot the password. So, he's sitting on more than \$250 million of bitcoin today... that he will likely never recover.

Even my son lost access to a substantial amount of bitcoin. He got into trading bitcoin when he was 16. Well, in time he got wrapped up in other teenage pursuits, forgot the password to the account where he held his bitcoin, and right now is sitting on more than \$50,000 that he can't get to.

Like your private keys, you always want to keep your seed phrase away from prying eyes. Anyone with that phrase can recreate your wallet on their computer, and then drain it.

In addition to “hot wallets,” there are also “cold wallets.” They are the most secure means of holding crypto safely because they remain disconnected from the internet most of the time, and thus inaccessible to hackers.

You only connect them to your computer for a few moments at a time when you are buying or selling. And even then, you must authenticate any transaction that aims to pull crypto off your cold wallet. If the transaction seems suspect, just hit decline and your crypto remains safely in your wallet. See page 22 for more on cold wallets.

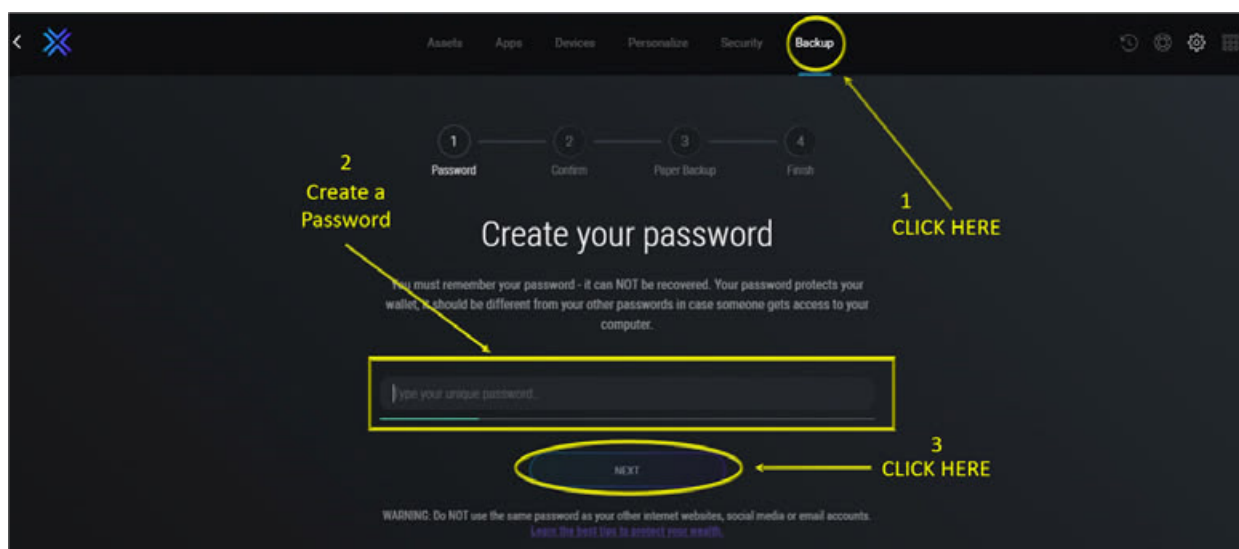
For most newcomers, a hot wallet is sufficient as you get to know the crypto economy. In that case, I recommend an Exodus Wallet. It’s easy to use, has an intuitive user interface, and you can connect to it on your laptop or your smartphone.

You can find it at [exodus.com/download/](https://exodus.com/download/), or in the App Store or Google Play. In this example, I’m loading Exodus onto my laptop.

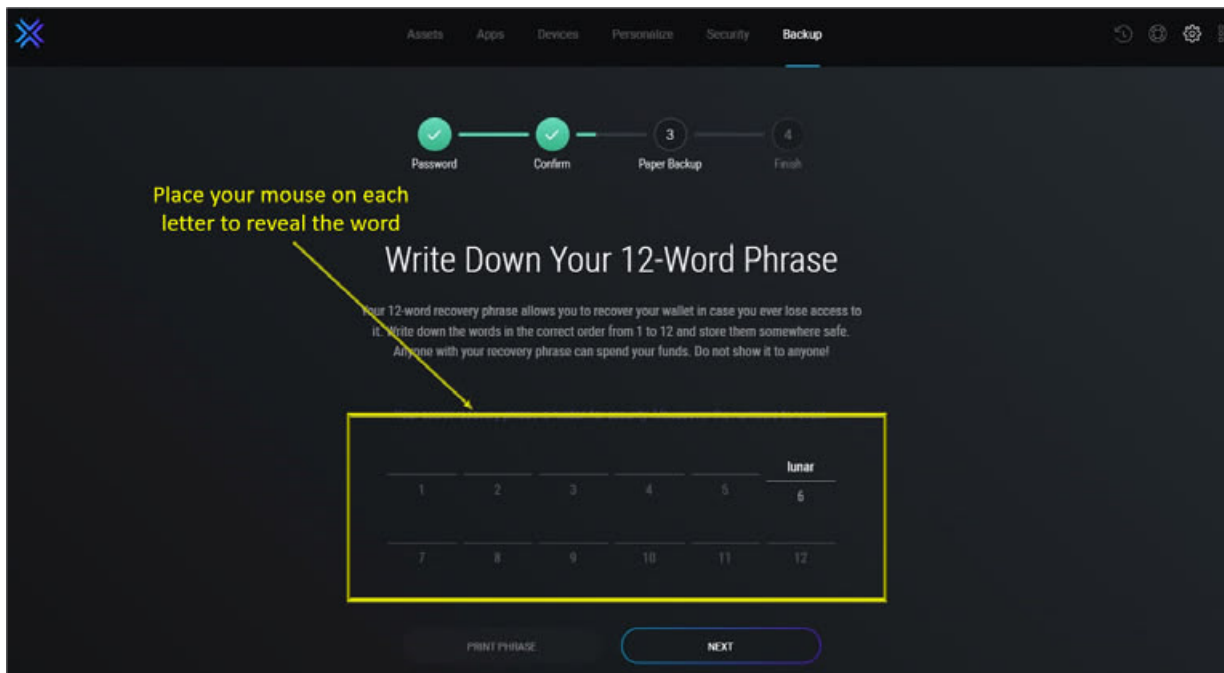
Once you’ve downloaded the file and opened it, you should see a page that looks like this:



Your new Exodus Wallet will pop up. First thing you want to do is click on “Settings”—the little sprocket in the top right corner. Then go to the “Backup” tab.

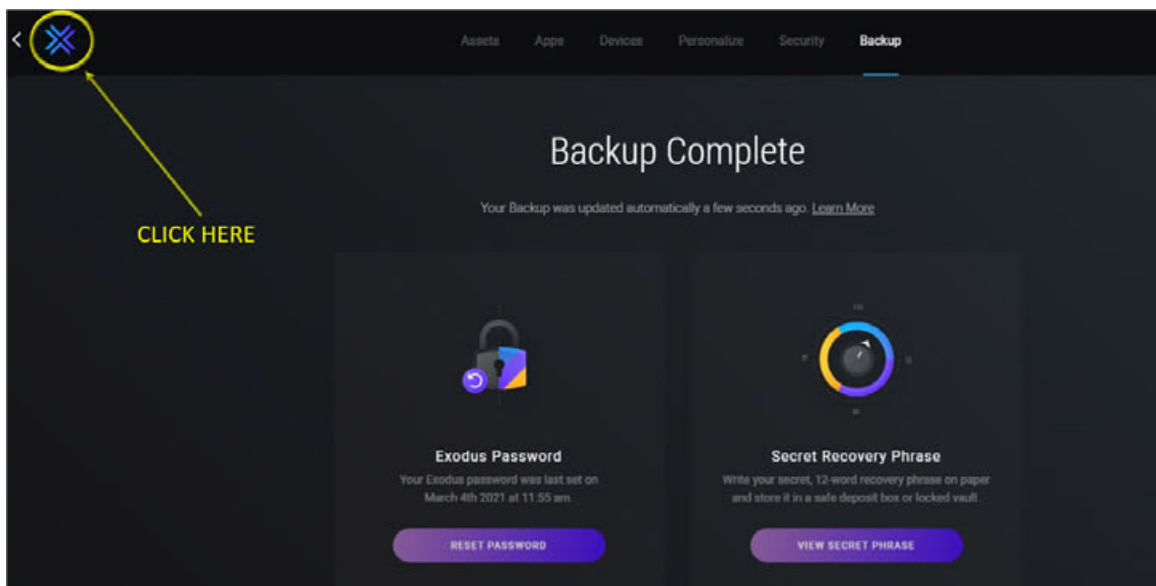


Here, you want to create a password for your account, and follow the prompts until you read Step 3, “Paper Backup.” You will see a screen that looks like this one:



Mouse over those blanks and a word pops up, like the word “lunar” in this example. Write down those 12 words in exact order. This is the “seed phrase” or “recovery phrase” I mentioned earlier. You want to store this someplace safe. This is your failsafe to regain entry to your wallet if you forget your password.

Then, follow the prompts again and you will reach this page...



In the top left corner, click on the big, blue-and-purple X to return to the home page.

Now, once your wallet is open, it’s ready to receive that bitcoin you bought. Here’s how to transfer it...

Let me note first that you might not be able to immediately move your first few crypto purchases off of Coinbase or other exchanges. That’s a security issue. Coinbase wants to make sure that the money you use to buy your crypto clears first. That can take seven to 10 days.

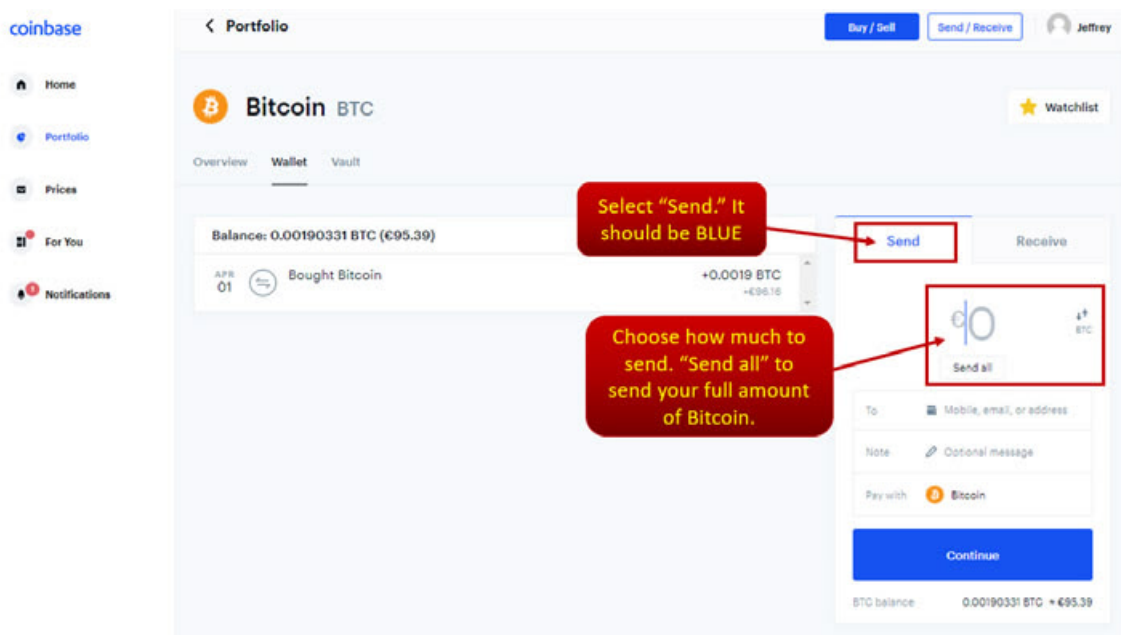
Once you have a proven history of buying crypto and your cash clearing, Coinbase will loosen up and allow you to immediately move your crypto just seconds after you buy it.

For this example, we will assume the hold period has passed, and you can move your bitcoin to wherever you want. We will move it to your Exodus wallet.

Go to your Coinbase wallet...

If you want to send your bitcoin to your Exodus wallet from Coinbase, click on bitcoin in your list of assets on your Portfolio page.

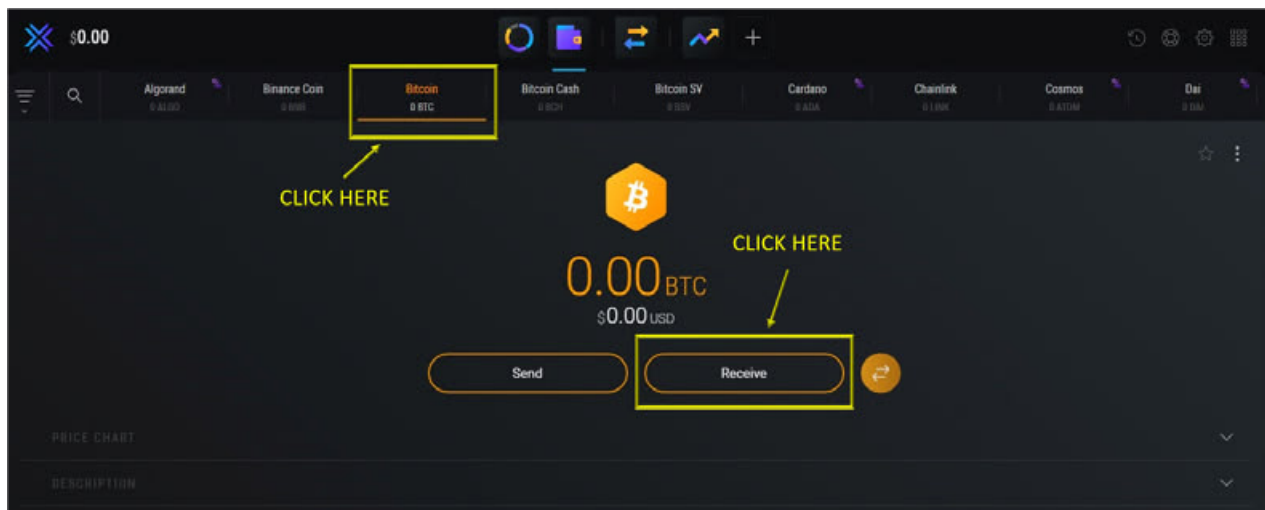
This page will appear...



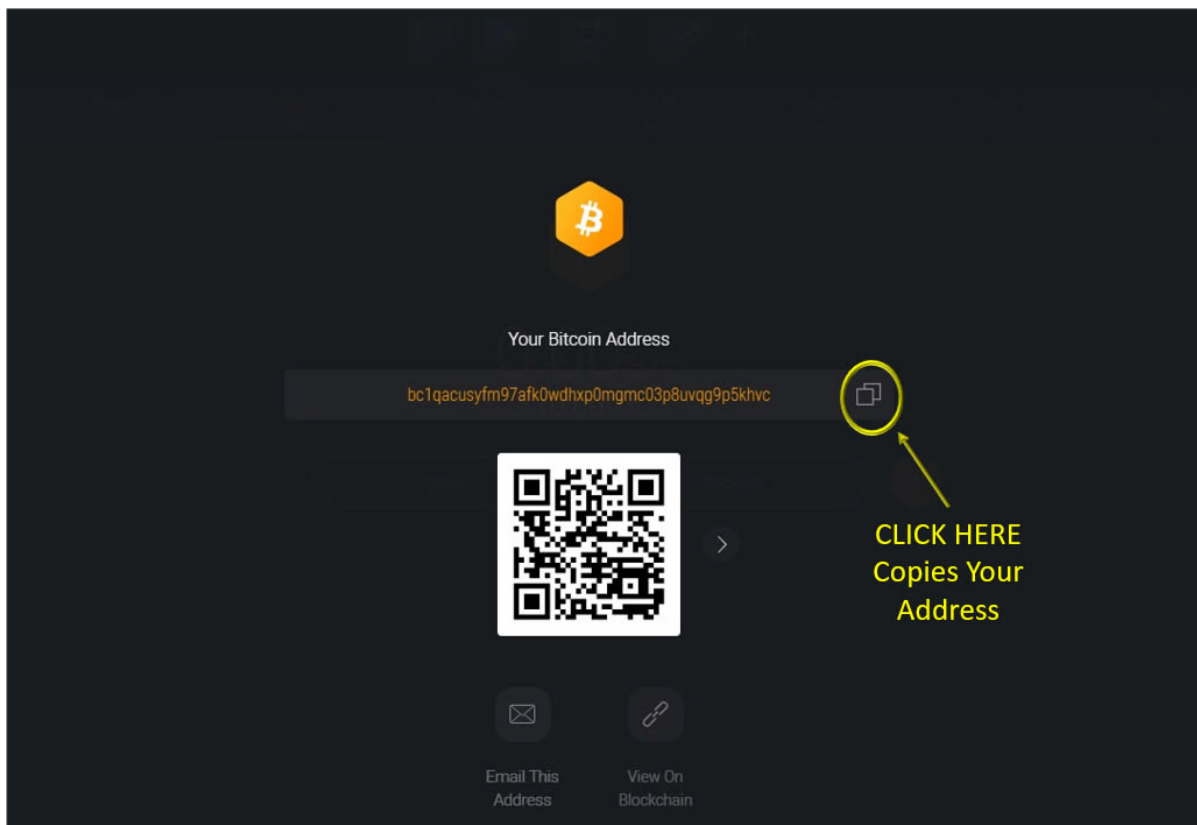
Make sure you have selected "Send" (it should be blue). Fill in the quantity of bitcoin you want to send, either in dollar amount, or bitcoin amount (by clicking the gray BTC to the right).

At this point, you need to go to your Exodus Wallet...

Click on bitcoin in the top menu bar of currencies to ensure that you are receiving bitcoin in your wallet. You never want to accidentally send one currency to the wallet of a different currency. Assuming the transaction doesn't immediately fail, your crypto will be forever lost.



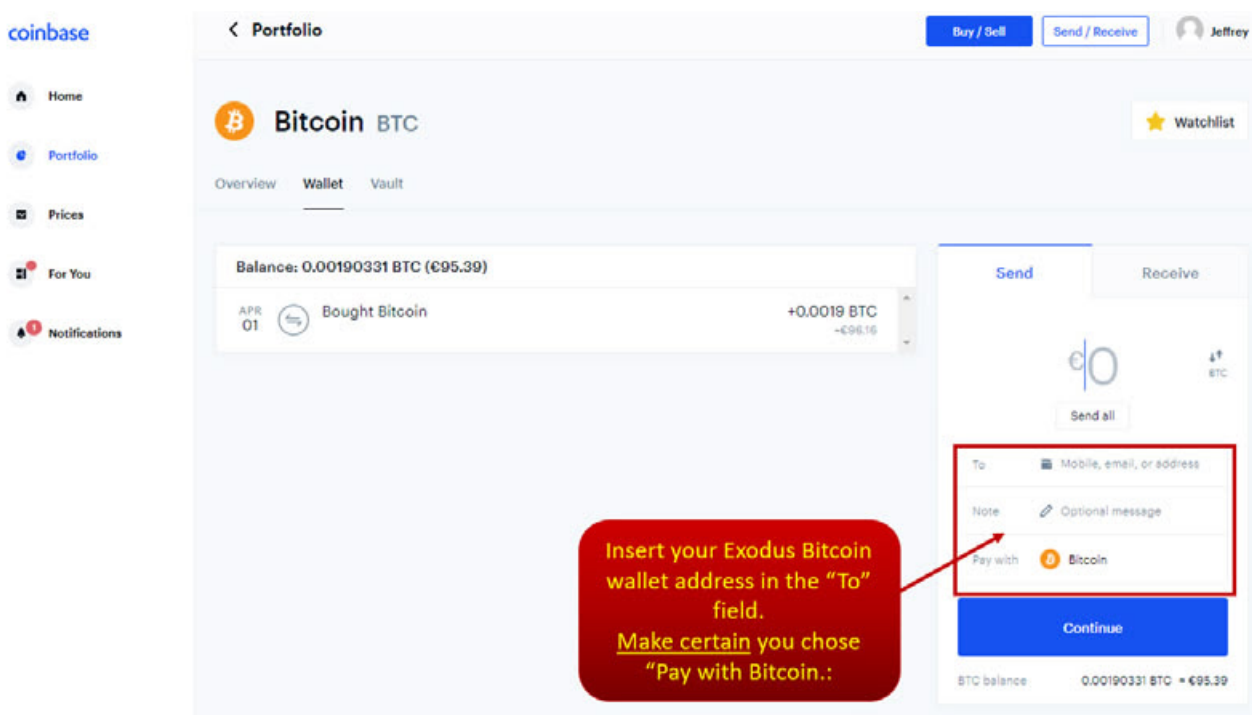
Once you've clicked on bitcoin, click on "Receive" and this will pop up...



That is your bitcoin wallet address used to receive bitcoin. It doesn't matter if anyone sees this—this is a public address, used only for receiving crypto. It's a one-way street—deposit only.

To the right, you will see two, overlapping documents. That's the "copy" function. Click on it and your computer memory will temporarily store your wallet address so that you can conveniently copy it over to Coinbase to complete your transfer.

So, click on the copy function and return to your Coinbase page...



In the field marked “to,” paste the bitcoin wallet address you just copied from Exodus.

And in the “Pay with” field, make sure again you have “Bitcoin” selected.

With those two fields filled in, click “Continue.”

And that’s it. In a few minutes, your bitcoin will show up in your Exodus Wallet and no longer be in your Coinbase account.

You have now completed the full process of buying and storing bitcoin. Welcome to the new era of money and finance.

## The Best Way to Keep Your Crypto Secure

Like I mentioned in the intro, today, you can buy bitcoin and many other cryptos quite easily just by logging into a PayPal account or through some brokerage firms such as Fidelity or Robinhood. You can even invest in a bitcoin ETF.

Buying through crypto trading platforms is slightly more involved, though not difficult.

Ultimately, crypto exchanges are a better option for one primary reason: You own your bitcoin in your name.

With PayPal, Fidelity, and Robinhood, your bitcoin is part of a giant pool, of which a portion is associated with your account but not owned directly by you. In some cases, you cannot withdraw your crypto and move it around.

In the event that PayPal or Fidelity or whichever firm was ever hacked, you could lose your bitcoin (though in reality, many firms these days have insurance to cover such a risk).

Even if you keep your crypto on a crypto-specific exchange, the crypto is in your name nominally, but the wallet in which it’s held is owned by the exchange. If that exchange is hacked, or if that exchange locks down amid a crisis (and this has happened in the past), you do not have access to your crypto.

That’s why I advise you buy bitcoin through an exchange and transfer it to a “cold wallet” or “hardware wallet.”

## Store Your Assets Like a Pro

Hardware wallets are USB-sized physical drives that are built with special encoding that prevents hackers from gaining access to your crypto assets. They serve as a place to safely store your crypto instead of keeping it on a crypto exchange.

By keeping your crypto on a hardware wallet, you have 100% control. While I do not foresee any problems with major exchanges such as Coinbase, I keep almost all of my crypto on a hardware wallet for the added layer of protection and peace of mind.

I primarily use a hardware wallet called a Ledger Nano X, which looks like the image to the right.



These are very simple to use once you know how they operate. And because of the way they work, hackers have no way of stealing your crypto because they would need to be in physical possession of the device and know your code for accessing it.

If you plan to buy one of these devices, only buy from Ledger itself. You can find the company's website [here](#).

Never—*NEVER!*—buy from a third-party vendor on Amazon or eBay or anywhere else, regardless of whatever discount they might be touting. Sellers can open the package, jot down the “security phrase” that grants emergency access to the wallet, and then repackage the item as though it was never tampered with.

Then, they can use another Ledger and with your security phrase drain everything you store on your Ledger into theirs. So always buy directly from Ledger.

The company has a good tutorial to demonstrate how you use the wallet. You can view that [here](#). (I gain no benefit from recommending this device to you. I'm merely highlighting the option I use.)