




How Do Identity Thieves Get Your Personal Information?

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- They get information from businesses or other institutions by:
 - stealing records or information while they're on the job
 - bribing an employee who has access to these records
 - hacking these records
 - conning information out of employees
 - They may steal mail, including bank and credit card statements, credit card offers, new checks, and tax information.
 - They may rummage through home trash, the trash of businesses, or public trash dumps in a practice known as "dumpster diving."
 - They may get credit reports through the workplace. A large portion of ID Theft crimes are committed by people you know or work alongside.
 - They may steal credit or debit card numbers by capturing the information in a data storage device in a practice known as "skimming." They may swipe a card for an actual purchase or attach the device to an ATM machine where anyone may enter or swipe a card.
 - They may steal a wallet or purse.
 - They may complete a "change of address form" to divert mail to another location.
 - They may steal personal information found in a home.
 - They may steal personal information through e-mail or phone by posing as legitimate companies and claiming that there is a problem with an account.