

Because of the loss of a job, you have run your two credit cards up to their credit limits during the past two months.

Credit Score Impact: - 80
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You decide it is time to get a new car. You go auto loan shopping over the next few weeks resulting in several inquiries to your credit reports.

Credit Score Impact: 0 during the time you are shopping. - 8 the following reporting period.
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You continue to struggle to make ends meet. You miss payments on your credit cards, and they are still nearly maxed out. You are also late with your rent payment.

Credit Score Impact: - 60
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

While purchasing groceries at Super Mart, you are offered 15% off of your total if you apply for a store credit card today. You do!

Credit Score Impact: - 8
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You find another job. You start making payments on your credit cards and bring your rent current. You bring the balances down to 30% of the available credit limit within three months.

Credit Score Impact: + 40
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You just had a birthday. You're now 23 years old.

Credit Score Impact: 0
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

Your car breaks down. With no emergency savings, you max out one of your credit cards again.

Credit Score Impact: - 60
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You want to make sure you are not overlooking any debts, so you order and get your credit reports.

Credit Score Impact: 0
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You steadily pay down your credit card balances while staying current on all of your other accounts (auto loan payment, student loans).

Credit Score Impact: + 40
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

After reviewing your credit report, you decide to close the first credit card you opened since you don't use it any more.

Credit Score Impact: - 15
(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You miss a \$175 medical bill — you thought it was an explanation of benefits statement. It is nine months past due.

Credit Score Impact: - 30

(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You take on another job to help pay down your debts. With the new schedule, you miss payment on your student loan for two months.

Credit Score Impact: - 50

(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

Realizing your error, you immediately pay the two months you missed and pay all of your other bills on time.

Credit Score Impact: + 20

(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

You cosigned for your best friend's automobile loan. She is 60 days late with her payment.

Credit Score Impact: - 60

(These are estimated credit score impacts.)

Your friend catches up on her auto loan payment and you continue to steadily pay down your credit card balances while staying current on all of your other accounts (mortgage, auto loan payment, student loans).

Credit Score Impact: + 30

(These are estimated credit score impacts.)