

Choose direct deposit, then choose how to save

Start with direct deposit. It's free and faster than a check. And your money stays safe in your account until you need it.

Save for sudden expenses

- Stay ahead of expenses that could come up this year.
- Put part of your refund in a savings account--at your bank or credit union, or in the savings wallet on your prepaid card.
- Voided check or savings deposit slip

Let your tax preparer know if you do not have any of the above items.

Save for the future

- Every little bit helps, and it's never too late to set aside money for your future.
- You can stash some of your refund in an individual retirement account (IRA).

Consider a savings bond

Savings bonds are a low-risk savings product where the government pays you interest for up to 30 years. Series I Savings Bonds are the only bonds you can purchase directly with your tax refund. For more facts, visit treasurydirect.gov.

Why a savings bond makes sense

- It's convenient. Buying savings bonds takes only minutes, and your tax preparer can do it for you today.
- It earns. Savings bonds earn interest that adjusts with the cost of living.
- It's safe. Savings bonds are backed by the U.S. government. The value of your bond can't decline.
- It's flexible. After one year, you can take your money out at any time.
- It can be gifted. Savings bonds can be given as a gift to help someone else start saving for his or her future.
- It's for everyone. You don't need a bank account to purchase savings bonds.

