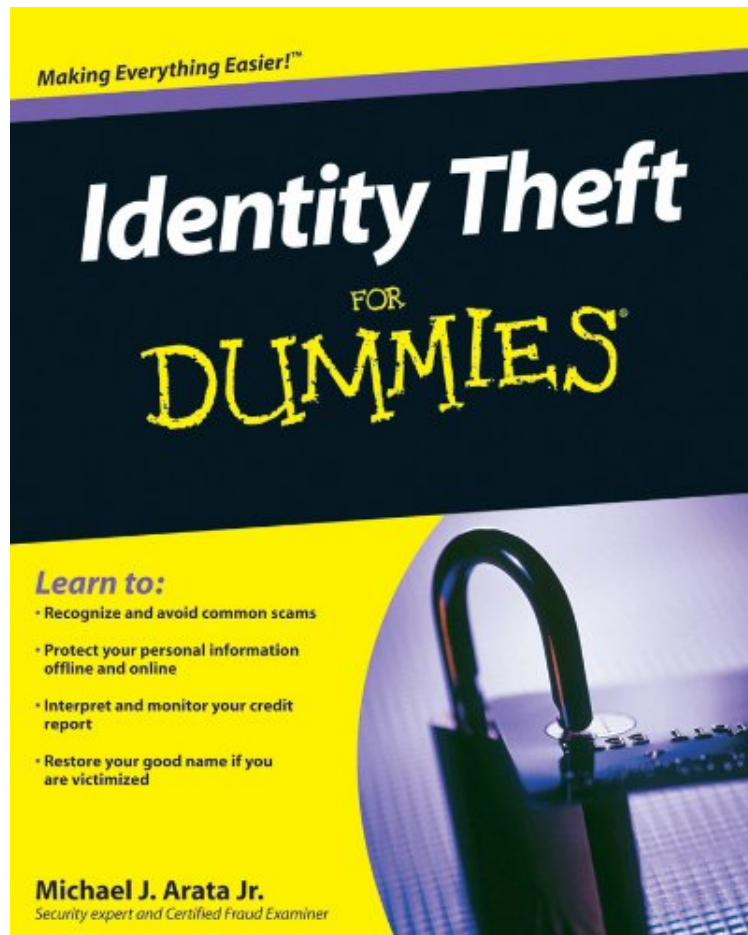


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# Identity Theft For Dummies

*Michael J. Arata*

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**Michael J. Arata : Identity Theft For Dummies** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Identity Theft For Dummies:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A worthwhile guide to preventing and remedying identity theft. By Geoff of CAMy identity was stolen recently, which gave me a strong desire to limit the damage and to prevent recurrences. I bought four books: Identity Theft for Dummies by Michael J. Arata (2010); 50 Ways to Protect Your Identity in a Digital Age, 2nd edition, by Steve Weisman (2013); The Wall Street Journal Complete Identity Theft Guidebook by Terri Cullen (2007); and Identity Theft Secrets by Dale Penn (2011). The most useful was the book by Weisman, followed by Arata's book. However, all four books were well worth the money. In general, they told the same story, but each had facts and insights that the others did not. Most of us are overloaded with urgent things to do, but since the average victim of identity theft spends 600 hours straightening out the mess, learning about and implementing identity theft protection is a good investment of time. I had been aware of the danger of identity theft, and had thought that I was doing a good job of preventing my identity from being stolen. However, reading the four books listed above made me realize that I was vulnerable in many ways that I had never considered. 0 of 0 people found

the following review helpful. Some good advice; somewhat outdatedBy SandySEPABook has many pieces of advice, some more practical than others as far as effort and technical knowledge required. Somewhat outdated in 2015-Emphasis on Windows XP and Vista, for example.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. identity theft for dummiesBy Vernon Siders Jr.I enjoyed reading this book. it helps me with keeping my victims informed. there is lots of information added. i wonder if they update this book every so often

Practical solutions to help you deter, detect, and defend against identity theft In 2008, 9.9 million Americans became victims of identity theft. The cost exceeded \$48 billion in 2008; consumers spend some \$5 billion out-of-pocket each year to clear up resulting fraud issues. This guide will help keep you from becoming the next victim. Written by a veteran security professional, Identity Theft For Dummies gives you the tools to recognize what information is vulnerable, minimize your risk, stay safe online, and practice damage control if your identity is compromised. If you have a name, a date of birth, and a Social Security number, you're a potential victim; this book helps you recognize your risk and defend against identity thieves Explains what identity theft is, how it happens, and how to recognize if you have become a victim Shows how to protect your personal information, how to be discreet in public places, how to interpret your credit report, and why you should monitor your financial statements Helps you recognize risks you may not have considered, such as what you set at the curb on trash day Provides advice on how to clear your name if you are victimized Identity Theft For Dummies arms you to fight back against this growing threat.

From the Back CoverWhat should I shred? How do I read my credit report? Is it safe to shop online? Find out! Identity theft costs billions of dollars each year to people just like you. This book shows you how to protect your personal information, reveals risks you may not have thought about, helps you learn whether you've already been victimized, and explains the steps you need to take to reclaim your good name and your good credit. Shred before you shed mdash; why you should avoid placing anything in your garbage that contains personal information Be vigilant mdash; learn how to regularly monitor your bank accounts and credit card statements Am I hit? mdash; what to watch for so you can tell as soon as possible whether your identity has been stolen Stick with the coffee mdash; why a cybercafeacute; may be a bad place to shop online or check your bank balance Compare services mdash; assess different companies that offer identity theft protection Oops, they got me mdash; know what to do first if your identity is stolen and what information you need to have Cyber-wary mdash; identify the protection you already have, whether it's adequate, and how to secure information on your computer The walls have ears mdash; learn to stay safe in public places Open the book and find: How to understand your credit report Tips on making a security plan How and when to complete a fraud affidavit Reasons for placing fraud alerts on your credit report Information you need to open or close accounts Checklists and phone numbers for reporting losses Sensible steps to keep you safe What NOT to carry Learn to: Recognize and avoid common scams Protect your personal information offline and online Interpret and monitor your credit report Restore your good name if you are victimized About the AuthorMichael J. Arata Jr. has more than 20 years of experience in security, crisis management, business continuity, and international investigations. He has developed and managed successful security programs for large organizations and performed numerous credit card fraud and embezzlement investigations.