2020 HOW TO CHANGE YOUR NAME ON YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD



A Social Security number is important because you need it to work, collect Social Security benefits, and receive certain government services. The information on your Social Security card must always be up-to-date and correct.

If you legally change your name because of marriage, divorce, court order, or any other reason, you must tell us right away so you can get a corrected card. You cannot apply to change your name online.

To update your Social Security card, you need to:

* Show the required documents, including proof of your identity. Sometimes you may also need to prove your current U.S. citizenship or lawful noncitizen status. See what documents you need at [www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber/ss5doc.htm](https://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/ss5doc.htm?utm_source=mip0420&utm_medium=online-media&utm_campaign=ocomm-mip-20&utm_content=how-to-change-your-name-on-your-social-security-card-001). Under the heading, “Type of Card,” select “Corrected***”*** for a list of the documents you need.
* Fill out and print the Application for a Social Security Card at [www.socialsecurity.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf](https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ss-5.pdf?utm_source=mip0420&utm_medium=online-media&utm_campaign=ocomm-mip-20&utm_content=how-to-change-your-name-on-your-social-security-card-002).
* Take or mail your application and documents to your local Social Security office. You can use our field office locator at [www.socialsecurity.gov/locator](https://www.ssa.gov/locator/?utm_source=mip0420&utm_medium=online-media&utm_campaign=ocomm-mip-20&utm_content=how-to-change-your-name-on-your-social-security-card-003)

For complete instructions, visit our webpage at [www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber](https://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/?utm_source=mip0420&utm_medium=online-media&utm_campaign=ocomm-mip-20&utm_content=how-to-change-your-name-on-your-social-security-card-004). You can also read the publication Your Social Security Number and Card at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10002.pdf](https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10002.pdf?utm_source=mip0420&utm_medium=online-media&utm_campaign=ocomm-mip-20&utm_content=how-to-change-your-name-on-your-social-security-card-005).

Remember, never keep your Social Security card in your wallet or purse. Keep it in a safe place to avoid identity theft.