Crypto for Beginners: The Plain-English Start

Baskin Logic Crypto Academy · What it is, how it works, how to stay safe · Free

1. What crypto is

A cryptocurrency is a digital asset recorded on a **blockchain**: a shared public record kept by many computers instead of one bank. Bitcoin was the first (2009). Ethereum added programmable "smart contracts". Stablecoins aim to track a currency such as the US dollar.

2. Key words

Wallet
Software or a device that holds the keys that control your crypto.

Private key / seed phrase
The master password (often 12–24 words). Whoever has it controls the funds.

Exchange
A company where people buy, sell and swap crypto. Rules differ by country.

Hot vs cold wallet
Hot = online, convenient. Cold = offline device, harder to hack.

Gas / network fee
The fee paid to the network to process a transaction.

Volatility
Prices can rise or fall sharply in hours. Losses can be total.

3. Five safety rules

1. **Never share your seed phrase** with anyone, any app, any "support agent".
2. **Real support never DMs you first.** Ignore unsolicited messages and "giveaways".
3. **Guaranteed returns are a red flag.** No one can promise profit.
4. **Check the address and URL twice.** Typo sites and fake apps are common.
5. **Turn on 2FA** with an authenticator app, not SMS where possible.

4. Before you do anything

Learn how your country taxes and regulates crypto, read the official sources, and never use money you cannot afford to lose. Get our free Scam-Spotting Cheat Sheet and 7-day safety course at **baskinlogiccrypto.com/start/**

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