

# CRYPTO 101

## A Beginner's Guide to Cryptocurrency



### WHAT IS CRYPTOCURRENCY?

Cryptocurrency is digital money, a form of currency that exists only online. It's built on blockchain technology, which records every transaction on a public, unchangeable ledger. Unlike traditional money, crypto isn't controlled by banks or governments, it's decentralized and powered by its community.

### WHY IT MATTERS

- Ownership & Control: You hold your own funds without middlemen.
- Global Access: Send and receive value anywhere, anytime.
- Security: Transactions are verified through cryptography, making them transparent and hard to tamper with.
- Innovation: Crypto fuels the next wave of digital finance, gaming, art (NFTs), and decentralized apps (DeFi).

### KEY TERMS TO KNOW

- Bitcoin (BTC): The first and most recognized cryptocurrency.
- Altcoins: Any coins that aren't Bitcoin, like Ethereum (ETH) or Solana (SOL).
- Wallet: A secure app or device used to store your crypto.
- Exchange: A platform where you buy, sell, or trade crypto.
- Blockchain: The digital record that tracks every transaction.
- DeFi: Decentralized Finance – using crypto without banks.

### HOW TO GET STARTED

- Learn Before You Leap. Understand basic concepts and risks.
- Choose a Reliable Exchange – Solana-based platforms.
- Set Up a Wallet – Keep your crypto safe (never share your private keys).
- Start Small – Invest what you can afford to lose.
- Stay Updated – Follow trusted sources and communities.

### YOUR JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Whether you're curious, cautious, or ready to dive in, now's the perfect time to learn the basics and explore responsibly. Welcome to the future of finance – welcome to crypto.