

Addressing **Self-Custody** 22-12-2025:

Myth – A crypto wallet stores crypto, just like a physical wallet stores credit cards and cash.

Reality – Your wallet doesn't store your cryptocurrency. Like any form of decentralized value, cryptocurrency is stored on a blockchain – a virtual ledger. Your wallet stores the private keys you use to access that value (which you can recover using a Secret Recovery Phrase).

This is, perhaps, THE most common myth about crypto, and it's easy to see why. Use of the word wallet evokes something that literally contains cash. Ask ChatGPT to visualise BTC or ETH, and you'll see images of shiny physical coins. Humans aren't comfortable dealing with abstract ideas, like blockchains, and this carries over from the lack of understanding of how traditional (fiat) money works.

This misconception may put users off digital ownership completely, worried about carrying their coins around on their phone or device. It also makes users more susceptible to scammers able to exploit the gaps in their knowledge.

However, here's the most important consequence of misunderstanding where crypto is stored. If you don't understand that your wallet only stores private keys, why would you think to back up your Secret Recovery Phrase properly? And if you don't back up your SRP, you're one accident away from losing everything (If this is leaving you in a cold sweat, read this article explaining best practices for storing offline backups of your Secret Recovery Phrase). Which brings us on to our next big misconception.

Private keys are long, complex alphanumeric strings that function like passwords, providing access to your crypto. Instead of having to remember these, you only have to remember a single list of 12, 18, or 24 words called a human-readable Secret Recovery Phrase (also known as a seed phrase). In Ledger signers, the SRP is stored within a secure element, a specialist type of microchip also used in bank cards and passports.

This seed phrase is the ultimate representation of your ownership. The safety of your digital assets depends entirely on the security of this phrase.

Secret Phrase

next gauge wage poem glass olive nest car dentist column stay cook	season fresh trick chuckle film cradle digital frame power moment dolphin often
matter stamp wagon hidden oval father push cloud sphere tide when trim	peanut year dream river client above fiction angle marriage double alien turtle
around lady reunion ride hover north remove brick private monster again verb	capable slam false direct donate crane avocado tissue evidence price board twenty
slow reveal grace spot shock address plug moon wink boost choose tag	select couple ramp charge tank picnic void calm sweet question account march
acoustic entire vintage enact note maze bus stool budget regular paddle actual	surround scrap clump mail cigar enough wine cram play issue visual cost
impulse harvest potato song quick craft oxygen produce melt movie clerk bird	tongue salute napkin gentle lonely foster rough enhance essence host project volcano
portion cart settle merry come artwork term sort hire better thought few	connect squirrel bulk wheel inherit route cattle aware shoot input shadow exchange
hair attract bullet find feel bleak athlete network share hope normal approve	service safe pink obey twice glide crisp rose off mountain lift nasty
youth range cricket zero library phrase story kingdom churn rabbit grab learn	powder tower raven music great fetch surge output mimic broom injury coffee
narrow segment forum nurse speak review innocent sad layer stadium close salmon	click live soft duck mixture industry under edit together change light castle
blame crash glue dad brass odor sauce brave use diet emotion visa	clay immense tired modify current recycle drive hello comic wreck logic sheriff
grant vital erode market else version jazz race disease couch surprise expect	place marine critic weather harsh sponsor call message gold accident sorry style
guess camp this print afford asset orchard round wild disorder hint harbor	family shop satoshi describe fire seed sister era seek tell scrub eager
receive sense sting dice skate reflect nuclear blouse belt diesel kitten require	raise pass shine assume turn brother into man hub include unhappy primary
notice impose yard already vault tilt skill dinner lizard member smooth luxury	ability olympic access audit garlic salon wet brush unlock fossil practice swing
program apart bicycle foam fox festival flee bubble purchase dose razor birth	swear mean eight absorb mobile despair matrix license biology good farm effort
ritual best voice grape tail trap winter idea eyebrow black run one	urge renew gain frown tunnel rescue butter hood capital tortoise cruise position
pact waste explain siege cube property mandate food rain return slogan boil	original tomato curious rare chicken empower vacuum clean pitch absurd warrior edge
device broken sniff cloth eye patch annual shuffle obvious pipe desk copper	govern rookie exclude lumber help gravity beach announce very anger attitude flame
rib initial leaf tip brain leisure marble fall wrestle panic garment electric	chair acquire knee path large cup short build boy purpose fashion offer
over cliff carpet fold crush visit jealous demand uniform captain life stable	travel absent toilet giraffe check rival indicate valve pluck taste believe syrup
kidney pulse until shrug inside mirror solution clinic spin legend vast beyond	glory elder universe opera knife flush donkey amused naive judge custom alarm

case order level spread garbage multiply sing prosper screen expand stock fitness	advance nominee upgrade shell supreme opinion ask divorce orphan earth vote hold
during debris trial doctor comfort example chalk asthma derive firm priority mammal	retreat master buzz pen vessel blanket patrol reward breeze category airport venture
real fuel hamster weasel replace confirm pupil enforce half flash ten arrange	follow cousin faith item proud unusual viable desert unable situate humble elephant
sausage trip height scale gap blind miracle tribe ice tuna tool patient	soap process enter enemy eternal guilt topple want law indoor glove staff
trumpet right retire card two elevator moral video because color inmate scene	spare pilot milk inject humor dry survey hunt allow west burden affair
become lawn conduct art brisk onion silver pioneer slush cash final wolf	alter bracket book warfare way rural devote hybrid ladder love say differ
pear nose piece snack invest erupt what deliver upon glimpse divert dwarf	garden slight balance model awful chronic group fat rice economy menu target
eagle spend tone gym prison gadget maid glow kite hurt wide finish	giant vicious mutual problem evil scan old keen ribbon only subject mushroom
person door endless outside flight inspire remember later elegant cool female hill	easy demise liar buyer medal coyote bridge garage correct strong glare vague
meat hard nut laptop evolve install caution cinnamon train early clog witness	predict stand echo face know girl aerobic clever used shoe tuition permit
section action virus six business exhaust deer iron link party detail various	south entry pledge supply van country cupboard page improve mosquito sunset notable
motor general enroll agree rigid truth move second protect fruit bamboo noodle	embark divide egg relax update pave skin manage present roast interest inch
gather promote mechanic unfold metal rapid expose transfer ignore smile hedgehog anxiety	myth cannon sail muffin three junk skirt educate village horror control stage
dune gate minimum income kangaroo flock memory peasant pony spawn liberty hundred	daring pudding census sock quote empty truck shift sea expire genius road
apology basket sun scout million recall fever slot ketchup horse rely zoo	east degree uncle loyal dress inflict sleep wheat amount raccoon ball wave
alert prepare draw jacket rebel duty cage spray equal traffic kid jelly	slab window subway antique fragile perfect sunny distance gun result bulb tattoo
snap toast crew morning rocket news tourist region twist toe stomach young	about canal nephew deposit insane begin impact frozen crowd obscure decline soup
runway fame minute prevent trash arch meadow write catch vivid dynamic worry	bind endorse grid borrow just match brief inform wedding stuff prize culture
spell increase please panel welcome never purse drama cheap bar cry shiver	human abandon open pride huge wish noble among word galaxy turkey blue
thunder object gloom violin crucial radio health regret table purity vibrant cat	heart barely magnet dust intact engine useless width vendor yellow cake artist
usage pretty buffalo spring then palm typical swim shaft scare enrich exist	search company loop assist envelope juice habit drip must honey champion token
mom frost debate praise label manual quit success box embrace broccoli rail	exercise script novel pepper slide midnight unique cluster emerge ecology topic chaos
engage bronze code liquid siren bomb neutral sword math treat february genuine	filter teach dash uphold bachelor have display web corn pistol kitchen will

cause whale stumble other essay also payment common husband bonus size suspect	observe measure swarm cream excite release tornado lounge armor velvet feed awkward
dilemma episode tenant bone resource lunch author scheme vocal nature fun deny	popular resist autumn fix game lucky mistake side casino thrive adapt answer
margin valley fork toy square frog join swap equip miss mango faculty	hospital caught ginger circle suit option panther umbrella congress rubber laundry keep
sentence island dial consider ahead lobster mercy top simple chef addict erase	found history fence ticket truly execute boat task decrease speed inner senior
suggest hobby combine pizza winner fringe gas cute crunch nation air chest	pole language claw fly float possible able rug pottery virtual maximum dawn
ocean more dove bright smoke oil snake spoon hotel august sign fabric	phone brown peace collect wait orbit chief wrong error famous cherry scissors
magic insect fault rich ugly plastic little october negative sustain worth theory	unfair advice ship genre gorilla pulp urban mother clutch crazy leopard cushion
decade draft nerve weapon cabbage wasp attack below legal panda pair tiny	ethics summer solid gossip maple since shove candy sight fancy quantum coast
motion assault trophy laugh coral goddess cactus decorate finger unit police rather	length amateur recipe leave give admit bid tumble monitor armed ripple mad
time grass same aunt cheese drum kind foil abstract mystery zebra embody	people sport fiscal apple elbow post force park science puppy banana easily
local arrow lava exact risk depart depth strike diagram pause mouse cruel	dismiss omit feature jar weird shield main chunk neck quarter win office
wise animal tooth always isolate thank antenna reform document identify victory soldier	knock render dog end true someone first guitar gaze illegal switch battle
denial hurry copy rate that student mention spy bean number mesh hawk	shy now average lamp robot catalog jaguar merge method add cycle still
oblige minor crystal adult solar unknown tonight organ cancel ghost list fortune	stairs awake rally solve torch lock penalty holiday ensure civil chimney gift
fog salt escape parade bag defy canvas punch latin auction silly clarify	thumb ozone okay gasp track profit monkey wisdom crawl cement decide merit
domain steak badge federal split whip mix damp test such canoe evoke	poverty age delay repair warm rude attend total enable concert toward ranch
talent once crumble carry grain puzzle throw agent certain trade strategy slim	drill palace glad they climb fee curve oven alcohol base neglect raw
forest discover drift tobacco before either symbol away trend wrap bless chat	energy index plunge pill gesture angry shrimp royal high jump walnut another
mass tree kiwi trigger remain struggle hen special wall icon slice doll	mixed balcony small grow excess sibling sure soda water enjoy junior dish
utility much involve series coil awesome tackle ready melody upper state point	ring session inhale toss left hand saddle giggle blur wonder oyster limit
reason smart bike damage pig pencil lion lab skull trust leg spike	dutch pelican security aspect hockey pattern paper burst basic fury major joke
reopen mind sudden army exhibit lesson journey quality hole goose inquiry blade	unveil walk future step cabin uncover hazard city jeans benefit estate goat
credit lake flag text where upset sketch myself orient field submit aim	vacant arrive bounce scatter mule can name put enlist report alley grunt

secret undo vanish alone parrot lawsuit work unaware develop piano file title	machine extend cover rhythm employ child banner surface reject neither clap fantasy
cereal random repeat lecture reduce drastic fish polar sample verify hat seat	salad spider joy robust fluid seminar ill friend rack century define room
hour dinosaur source danger floor front flat silk labor actor clown tent	material destroy achieve choice resemble tomorrow rent loan guard mansion cave abuse
casual orange december jungle poet sugar provide romance green cotton long net	ordinary blast crop you fiber sadness woman dirt bottom job scorpion fit
similar design bunker auto view burger rule stem analyst figure symptom actress	wife refuse fatigue curtain crime ridge core satisfy ceiling proof diary pond
lemon artefact plate sound veteran image like across crouch bring swift avoid	canyon timber fade type exotic loud favorite element hammer luggage stereo near
infant whisper baby blood seven weekend kiss talk start dance day gospel	bitter cable pigeon chapter club prefer gallery vehicle ancient remind there afraid
kit accuse anchor foot team night dignity toddler deal thing buddy forget	excuse betray grocery stick dumb trouble course tray swamp head carbon ostrich
twelve stove album silent express wear squeeze wash almost adjust taxi need	axis middle flavor helmet setup grit bundle limb sick wood record pull
noise tragic lens wool pool try faint amazing all muscle bread beef	arctic diamond kick flower slender wire spirit owner suffer exit busy crater
rotate coconut school chase immune atom volume planet appear blossom soul clip	soon town furnace hollow illness globe cargo make erosion street boss happy
behave celery brand earn outdoor extra picture guide acid parent venue misery	usual coin quiz tennis shallow camera arm creek gown key lend leader
arrest defense tube lyrics world deputy arena flip exile occur convince argue	clock wing imitate disagree month claim april hurdle own area bacon donor
cross fan any twin idle hip snow shed dragon beauty jewel heavy	oppose glance system public lunar oak response pyramid border mask valid space
focus lottery wealth social bargain media grief barrel blush fatal detect pumpkin	museum super radar dizzy useful hero roof wrist online citizen behind soccer
spatial physical bench funny theme aisle spoil shoulder today drop fine stone	sell lazy load save crack nothing zone coach ivory depend letter act
swallow voyage home boring forward tiger horn hungry nice pet vapor rebuild	obtain daughter elite rifle between steel ankle outer invite frequent photo tape
drink alpha riot sand body ski spice relief topic priority core desert	