

Revoking Token Approvals to Protect Your Crypto Wallet

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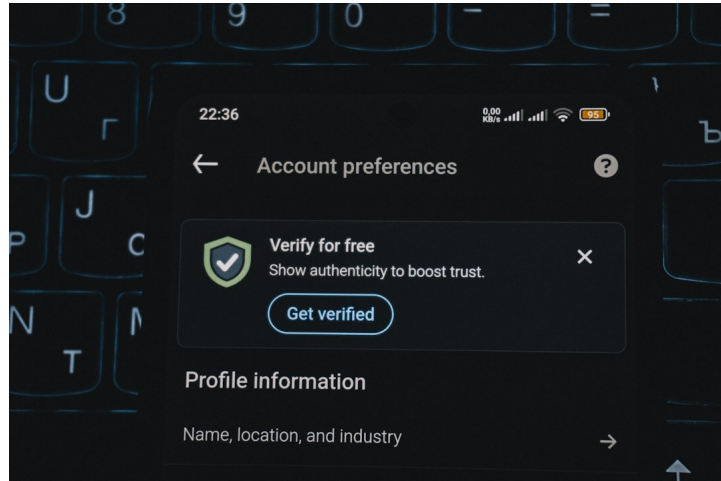


Photo by [Zulfugar Karimov](#) on [Unsplash](#)

When you interact with a decentralized application, you typically sign a transaction granting that app permission to spend tokens from your wallet. These permissions, called token approvals, remain active indefinitely unless you explicitly revoke them. Most users grant dozens of approvals over time and never revisit them, leaving a wide attack surface that malicious actors can exploit.

How Token Approvals Work

Token approvals are smart contract permissions defined by the ERC-20 and ERC-721 standards. When you approve a protocol to spend your USDC, for example, you're calling the `approve()` function and specifying an allowance — often set to the maximum possible value for convenience. The approved contract can then transfer up to that amount from your wallet at any future point, without requiring another signature from you.

This design is intentional. It reduces the number of transactions needed during normal use. However, it also means a compromised or malicious contract retains the ability to drain your tokens long after you've stopped using the platform.

The Real Risks of Unrevoked Approvals

Protocol exploits are the primary danger. If a DeFi protocol you approved gets hacked, attackers can use existing approvals to pull funds directly from connected wallets, even if you withdrew your liquidity weeks earlier. This happened during the BadgerDAO exploit in 2021, where attackers injected malicious approvals through a compromised front-end and drained roughly \$120 million from user wallets.

Phishing sites present a second threat. A fake site mimicking a legitimate protocol can prompt you to sign an approval that grants a malicious contract unlimited access to a specific token. You may not notice until your balance disappears.

Infinite approvals amplify both risks. Many interfaces default to unlimited allowances to avoid repeated approval prompts. Setting a specific, bounded allowance instead limits the damage any single approval can cause.

How to Revoke Approvals

Several tools let you view and revoke active approvals. Revoke.cash supports Ethereum and most EVM-compatible chains including Arbitrum, Optimism, Base, and Polygon. Connect your wallet, and it displays every active approval sorted by token and spender. You can revoke individual permissions or batch-revoke multiple approvals in a single transaction where the chain supports it.

Etherscan's Token Approval Checker offers similar functionality for Ethereum mainnet. For Solana, tools like SolanaFM and Revoke.cash's Solana interface handle token account delegations, which work differently from EVM approvals but carry the same risks.

Each revocation is a blockchain transaction and requires a small gas fee. Revoking approvals on Layer 2 networks typically costs a few cents, making regular cleanup practical.

Building a Safer Approval Habit

Review your approvals after testing any new protocol, before and after a known exploit hits a platform you've used, and at least once every few months as routine hygiene. When an interface offers a choice, set a specific allowance matching only what you need rather than accepting an unlimited approval.

Hardware wallets don't protect against approval-based theft — the signed permission is what matters, not how it was signed. Staying on top of your approval list is one of the most concrete steps you can take to reduce exposure in DeFi.

MNEMONIC BACKUP PHRASES

Below is a set of 60 randomly generated 12-word mnemonic sequences built from the official BIP39 wordlist.

1. jump negative only foster merge current letter wire pause please gentle ensure
2. pet unable final wise puzzle donate bar debate fit rose symptom buddy
3. april permit exhibit expose photo clump symptom vacant visa term force stereo
4. neutral park canvas someone small joy payment scorpion frog drill toe bullet
5. modify absurd tool rally runway melt dilemma average brush useless penalty vapor
6. dirt core analyst indicate cup wine butter key inherit solid exhibit resource
7. inhale write thrive napkin wild leader magic bridge imitate bean dry sheriff
8. purpose neglect truck science arm teach crop conduct surface praise clay machine
9. answer east trigger toss meat range judge file thrive immune joy sheriff
10. auto other you monitor lend gadget sick tribe total nut measure say
11. picture unusual other release tornado busy enforce cage original digital brave length
12. basket pumpkin awful kid lazy island silent wedding budget flash deny wall
13. exhaust eight learn render grape shift photo labor stove enhance bomb canvas
14. blame describe apart enrich surprise bless topic connect inner envelope job alone
15. muffin recipe once firm orphan enroll account struggle museum fit grass innocent
16. know ability stuff fence glue gentle iron come enroll public armed ridge
17. reason thing wash explain vintage frozen deal capable skin vote museum payment
18. wolf donkey liquid certain cloud conduct other round thumb dust prevent prefer
19. market whip current carry display find office kiss home prevent twist shine
20. opera find one cattle order siren aisle noble soccer hockey festival oblige
21. wave dust trap original coast answer bind parade figure settle because icon

MNEMONIC BACKUP PHRASES

22. hotel original sort poverty post often section engage glance program
buddy poet
23. boil tone whip brother gown loop nature immune only once muffin earth
24. section worth pulp view become glance shuffle theme dial fashion close
wire
25. salt giant grid slot screen aisle slender purity practice wisdom eager
spoil
26. frame tattoo chef clean like ugly slim arrive humble faculty ankle such
27. leaf chief indoor great upper twice supreme dose toe basic elegant fine
28. portion coin always father casino silly border rely pulse inhale seek
slim
29. hamster define dog upon saddle coach monster during major whip cliff
board
30. iron melt bleak ancient drum basket crane voyage wall tail mobile marine
31. early citizen pear saddle case tenant meadow angle finger auction dignity
fun
32. dolphin pepper opera stadium trash draft home property patient half
broccoli clarify
33. tragic napkin chair notice just dolphin satisfy clean arena exile guitar
expect
34. rally between moral toward mechanic ozone plastic wife guitar today
certain decorate
35. borrow supreme three elegant pupil ginger asthma list peace garment doll
unfair
36. scrap army token before weapon noble wonder custom digital boring just
loan
37. cotton tool gun slight response shallow equal believe possible tool
canvas quick
38. finger also bind arrow endless universe mushroom tortoise buyer virus
better defense
39. holiday manual all under board spot orchard gown mix replace slim
business
40. nut race pioneer ivory gold denial elite square sock bless peanut
mechanic
41. list shield solid garment item forum chuckle deny hazard apple promote
jelly
42. copper head stumble monitor depend mushroom base fuel electric chef
tumble palace
43. mushroom tired fire snow horse march imitate addict bar female evil
pigeon
44. amount silent click own bounce pool thrive answer save script spring
february
45. target chalk clarify drama vehicle imitate bulk small vacuum wagon
current fix

October 04, 2026 · Page 4

MNEMONIC BACKUP PHRASES

46. hope destroy dolphin enter any tilt swim daughter bar rich wrist merry
47. seek try shine daring laundry message eternal thrive carry omit senior laptop
48. video vivid text farm confirm stuff stairs transfer faculty zoo symptom wet
49. image february lion hazard excess six cradle paddle increase pilot lake mercy
50. coin digital labor fault rabbit beyond nothing predict poem butter tourist poem
51. tenant allow notice crunch rude buddy figure laugh garbage route during food
52. peasant time autumn whisper town reunion pistol rabbit lyrics strike fault multiply
53. indicate like thing mercy list result pluck differ minimum turtle grunt heart
54. sail invite close over camp bracket input text evil tape wrong romance
55. dial avoid spider frost tennis gorilla enter early mesh solve alien document
56. boss own major popular stairs execute maple hub toddler salute sausage bless
57. drama bulk whisper fix rigid lecture talk dove canoe fabric upgrade sound
58. soon fringe casual truck gold order voice wheel fog drink split sun
59. exclude autumn spot nothing cargo goose stumble inquiry small enrich lounge planet
60. soccer trumpet throw depend notice hunt dove citizen huge theory wrap tip

SEE ALSO

- [Revoking Token Approvals to Stay Safe in Web3 — BIP39 Seed Phrases \(September 09, 2026\) \(2026-09-09\)](#)
- [How Whale Movements Affect Crypto Prices — BIP39 Seed Phrases \(June 24, 2026\) \(2026-06-24\)](#)
- [The Rise of Play-to-Earn Crypto Games: Revolutionizing Digital Entertainment — BIP39 Seed Phrases \(April 13, 2026\) \(2026-04-13\)](#)
- [what-is-infura-bip39-phrase_2025-11-12.pdf \(bip39-phrase_2025-11\)](#)

Educational examples only. Randomly generated, not valid wallet phrases - never use them to store funds. Details: bip39-phrase.com/security/
October 04, 2026 · Page 5