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Credit Risk Are You How Good A

By The Associated Press In this age of the charge account, we're likely to assume that would ask you; the questions are trees. And it is true that, for your own financial responsibility. most people, credit is easier to come by now than ever before.

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extend a charge account to anyone with two of three things-a job, a bank account, or another charge account.

But what if you find yourself wanting or needing a substantial trip, some dental work or a home decoration project? You would probably go to the bank where be dependable. you have your checking account, because (a) they konw you, and (b) their interest rates are lower dress more than twice in the last than those of most credit sources. three years? How good a credit risk would

you be? Here's a quiz to find out, based

on bankers' many years of ex- of address do not negate the fact

perience. These are not necessarily the questions bankers in each place. credit, if not money, grows on intended for you to appraise

the ones here, you're that rare order to enjoy your purchase Most department stores will creature, the perfect credit risk.

> Q. Have you worked for the same firm for two years or more?

A. Yes. Job stability is an important factor where banks are you want, (b) you realize that concerned. Of course, if your job sum of cash for, say, a vacation is routine, a "yes" could mean you're just a stick-in-the-mud, but sticks-in-the-mud do tend to

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Q. Have you changed your ad-

where they can reach people. On ever-ready "cushion" in your the other hand, numerous changes checking account is especially

that you pay your rent on time

* * you always make as small a credit responsibly. If all your answers agree with down payment as possible, in while you're paying for it?

A. No. The fact that you've made a large down payment shows the banker that (a) you are able to save ahead for what interest on the remaining installments will be less, so that the long run.

Q. Does your checking account require a minimum balance?

A. Yes. Maintaining any type of bank account is in your favor, A. No. Bankers like to know but the fact that you keep an helpful when you apply for credit.

Q. Do you own your home?

A. Yes. A house is a valuable asset. And regular mortgage pay-Q. When buying on credit, do ments indicate that you handle * * *

> Q. Do you already have several large outstanding debts - big medical bills which you are paying off in installments, for example?

A. No, unles you're rich and have kept your debts in line. Your total debts, according to a purchase will cost you less in the rough rule of thumb, should not exceed a third of your "discretionary" spending for the year. ("Discretionary" money is what's left over after you have paid for the essentials-food, hous-

ing, clothing, insurance.) * * *

Q. Does your income fluctuate -feast one year and famine the next?

A. No. If your income goes up and down-if your earnings depend on commissions, tips, or fees—you are less likely to be a good credit risk than the person with a steady, salaried income. (However, you can demonstrate your financial stability in other ways, such as those mentioned above.)

THE BATTALION

Q. In applying for a loan, do you wait until the last possible moment before you decide that borrowing is inevitable?

* * *

A. No. Borrowers who are in a great hurry to get their hands on cash may raise questions in the lender's mind. Your credit record and other items must be carefully little time, though the money may be available at your bank within 24 hours.



TOP AIR FORCE CADET Cadet Capt. Robert J. Harcrow receives the Commandant's Award at Robins Air Force Base from Col. Gordon F. Goyt, commander of the 465th Bomb Wing.

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