

## Getting Paid as a Host: What to Expect When Connecting Your Bank

Thank you for joining our community! Before you can start hosting and earning income, there's one important step: **connecting your bank account securely through Stripe**, our trusted payment partner.

We know this step can feel unfamiliar, so here's a simple breakdown of what to expect.

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### Why We Ask You to Link a Bank Account

To send you payouts when you earn money, we need a way to deposit funds directly into your bank. Stripe helps us do this **securely and automatically**. They work with **millions of businesses worldwide**, including Amazon, Shopify, and Lyft.

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### What Information Will Be Requested?

When you connect your account, you may be asked for:

- **Your name**
- **Bank account number & routing number**
- **Date of birth**
- **Last 4 digits of your Social Security Number (SSN)** – required by law in the U.S. for identity verification
- **Bank login (optional)** – Some banks let you connect instantly; others may ask you to verify micro-deposits manually.

Stripe uses this info to:

- Confirm it's really *you*
- Prevent fraud and money laundering (required by U.S. law – "Know Your Customer" rules)
- Comply with banking regulations

 **Good to know:** Your full SSN is *not always* required—just the last 4 digits in most cases.

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### Is This Safe?

Yes. Stripe uses **bank-level encryption** and is a **certified PCI Service Provider Level 1**—the highest standard in payments security.

- We (your hosting platform) **never see or store your bank login info or SSN**.
  - Stripe handles everything securely in the background.
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### **How Long Does It Take?**

- Most people can connect in **under 2 minutes**.
  - If your bank supports instant connection, you're done right away.
  - If not, Stripe may send two small deposits you'll need to verify (takes 1–2 business days).
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### **Some Banks May Ask for More Info**

Depending on your bank, you might see a request for:

- A driver's license
- Full SSN
- Business info (if you're signing up as an LLC or business)

Don't worry—this is normal, and it's part of staying compliant with financial regulations. If you're ever unsure, you can reach out to our team.

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### **We're Here to Help**

If anything feels unclear or uncomfortable during this process, just reach out. We're happy to walk you through it or answer questions any time.

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