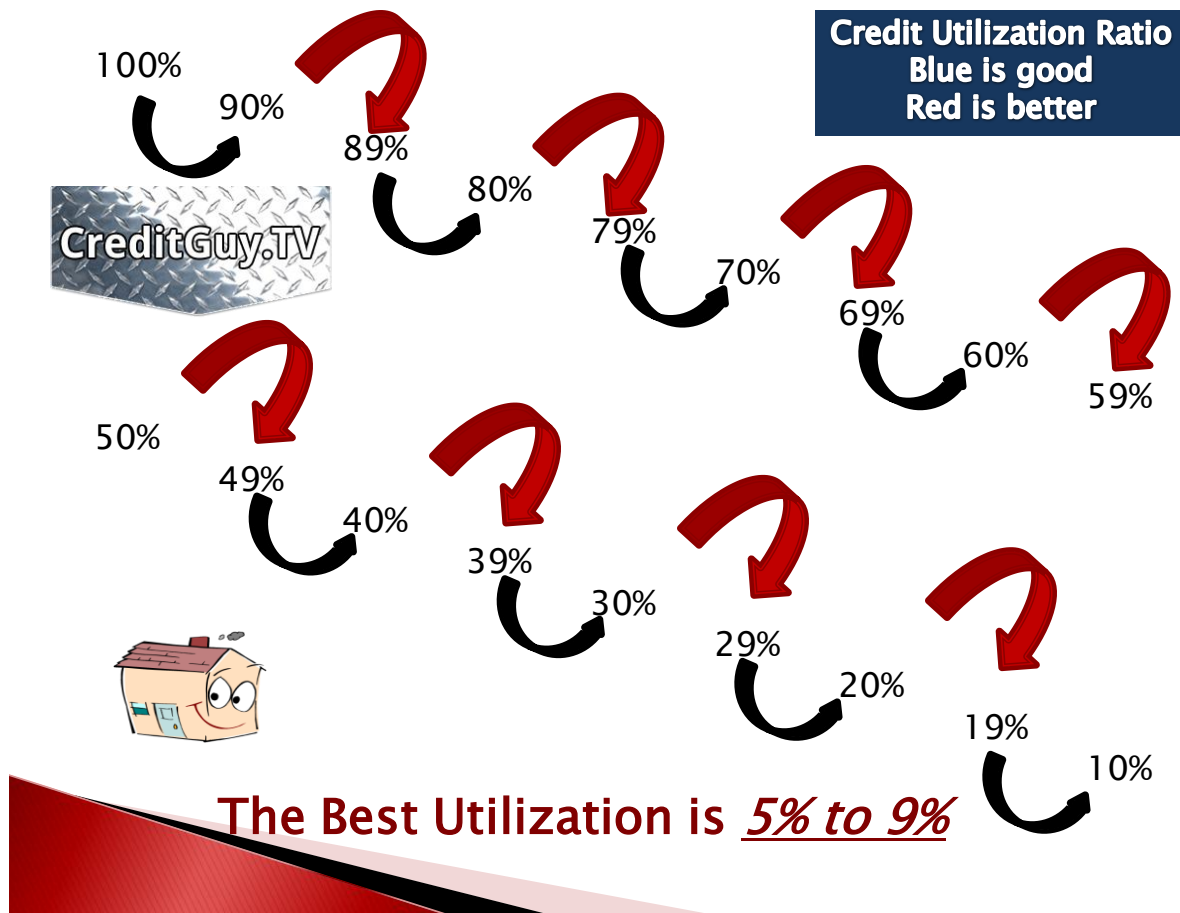


Step 5

Start paying your bills on the Statement Date!

Your loan balances are only reported on one day per month so it is very important that you get your balance down on the statement date not the due date. That way regardless of how high your balance is the rest of the month, you benefit from a higher score for the entire month by paying just before the statement date. We are getting very close to the goal so try to get all your revolving balance debt down to 5-9% for your maximum score. Please review the graph below.

How much should I keep on my Credit Card balances to get the best score?





The Mystery Monthly Billing Bonus

Closely review all credit card statements over the last 3 months. We all sign up for things that we may think are a good idea at the time not realizing that there may be recurring charges monthly or quarterly or annually until you cancel.

Try to find any charges that you really don't need and get them canceled right away. Also consider, all memberships and monthly costs and measure them against how much you actually use them. If you can cut a few bills here and there, it can add up to a car payment very quickly (do not buy anything until after your mortgage has closed), I am sure you would rather have a new car than a bunch of bills for things you don't need or use. Also please consider buying a domestic on all goods, services and Autos.

Damage Points

Credit Mistake	If the score started at 680	If the score Started at 780
Maxed-Out Card	Loss of 10 to 30 Points	Loss of 25 to 45 Points
30-Day Late Payment	Loss of 60 to 80 Points	Loss of 90 to 110 Points
Debt Settle for Less Than Full Balance	Loss of 45 to 65 Points	Loss of 105 to 125 Points
Foreclosure	Loss of 85 to 105 Points	Loss of 140 to 160 Points
Bankruptcy 13 or 7	Loss of 130 to 150 Points	Loss of 220 to 240 Points

