

Bitcoin:
The Gold Rush of
the 21st Century



What Is Bitcoin?

Bitcoin is a new currency that was created in 2009 by an unknown person or people using the alias Satoshi Nakamoto. Transactions are made with no middle men, meaning, no banks. There are no transaction fees and no need to give your real name.

Bitcoins can be used to buy merchandise anonymously. In addition, international payments are easy and cheap because bitcoins are not tied to any country or subject to regulation. Small businesses may like them because there are no credit card fees. Some people just buy bitcoins as an investment, hoping that they'll go up in value.

Bitcoins are stored in a "digital wallet," which exists either in the cloud or on a user's computer. The wallet is a kind of virtual bank account that allows users to send or receive bitcoins, pay for goods or save their money.

What Is Blockchain?

We can define the blockchain as a system that allows a group of connected computers to maintain a single updated and secure ledger. Ledgers are distributed across the world via a network of private computers that are both storing data and executing computations. Each of these computers represents a "node" of the blockchain network and has a copy of the ledger file.

In order to be able to perform transactions on the blockchain, you need a digital wallet. Since only you should be able to spend your Bitcoins, each wallet is protected by a special cryptographic method that uses a unique pair of different but connected keys: a private and a public key. These keys guarantee that every transaction is specific to only you, in effect creating your own digital signature to verify transactions.







