

Puts Your Money In Your Pocket ... FASTER! orking with your financial institution, the IRS will electronically transmit your tax refund using direct deposit. Eighty-seven million taxpayers already take advantage of this service because it is the most secure.

SAFE - checks can't get lost or stolen

**EASY** – no special trips to your financial institution

FAST – refunds arrive up to 3 weeks earlier

Over the years the IRS has improved its refund options to the U.S. Taxpayers. Here are just two of the most popular.

## SPLIT DEPOSITS

You can select **up to three financial accounts** for direct deposit of your tax refund. You can choose regular checking and savings accounts, IRA accounts, Health Savings Accounts, Coverdell education accounts or medical savings accounts. *You decide* which combination is best for you.

## IDENTITY PROTECTION PIN

The Identity Protection PIN is a six-digit code known only to you and to the IRS. This simple precaution helps to prevent identity thieves from filing fraudulent tax returns using a taxpayer's personally identifiable information.

An IP PIN is valid for one calendar year only, so each year you must obtain a new IP PIN—they are generally unavailable from mid-November through mid-January. (For more information visit IRS.gov and use the Get an IP PIN tool).

More safeguards to use for additional identity theft protection would be:

- Use strong, unique passwords –
  experts recommend 10 characters with at
  least one each of capital letters, symbols,
  numbers, and regular letters.
- Recognize impostor scams fraudsters pose as representatives of legitimate organizations and use phishing emails, threatening calls and text messages to gain access to accounts.
- Update all your security software on all your mobile devices as well as computers and routers in your home on a regular schedule.
- Protect personal information like Social Security cards and secure all tax records and returns.

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For more information, go to Internal Revenue Service **www.IRS.gov**