

Pointers for Direct Deposit of Refunds

- Using a check, paper or electronic documentation from the financial institution as proof of account, verify:
 - Routing Transit Number (RTN). The RTN must contain 9 digits and begin with 01 through 12 or 21 through 32.
 - Depositor Account Number (DAN). The DAN can be up to 17 characters. Include hyphens but omit spaces and special symbols. Don't include the check number or the dollar amount on canceled checks. On the sample check below, the account number is 20202086. The 16-digit number on a debit card is not the account number.
- Don't use a deposit slip for proof of RTN as this may not be the same RTN used for direct deposit. For direct deposit into a savings account, the taxpayer should obtain a statement from the financial institution to verify the routing and account number for direct deposit. For direct deposit into a checking account, if the taxpayer doesn't have a canceled check, the taxpayer should also contact their financial institution.
- Entering the incorrect RTN and/or DAN will result in a 4-6 week delay of the refund, or it may go into someone else's account. If the direct deposit is voided, a paper check



Financial institutions generally don't allow a joint refund to be deposited into an individual account. The IRS isn't responsible if a financial institution refuses a direct deposit.

- will automatically be mailed to the address on the electronic tax form.
- Double-check the RTN of the financial institution if:
 - You are unfamiliar with the financial institution. (Some types of accounts that exist through brokerage firms can't accept direct deposits.)
 - The RTN is for a credit union, which is payable through another financial institution. The taxpayer should contact his or her credit union for the correct RTN.
- Savings Bonds - Taxpayers can buy U.S. savings bonds with their federal tax refund. Even if the taxpayer doesn't have a bank account or a Treasury account they can elect this option. Taxpayers can make bond purchases for themselves. Refer to Form 8888, Allocation of Refund (Including Savings Bond Purchases), or the IRS website for more details.
- Remember the split refund option: If a taxpayer chooses to direct deposit his or her refund into two or three accounts, you will need to complete Form 8888.



Direct deposit of a taxpayer's refund is to be made to an account (or accounts) only in the taxpayer's name. Advise taxpayers their refund may only be deposited directly into his/her own account(s).

Taxpayer's federal and state refunds can't be deposited into VITA/TCE Volunteer or any associated partner's personal or business bank/debit card accounts.

Note: To combat fraud and identity theft, IRS permits a maximum of three refunds to be electronically deposited into a single financial account.

The fourth and subsequent refunds automatically convert to a paper refund check and will be mailed to the taxpayer.

TONY MAPLE
JENNIFER MAPLE
123 Pear Lane
Anyplace, GA 00000

PAY TO THE ORDER OF \$ 1234
15-0000000

ANYPLACE BANK
Anyplace, GA 00000

For

Routing number (line 74b) 250250025
Account number (line 74d) 20202086

Do not include the check number.

1234

Note: If the bank routing number or account number is not obtained from a check, you should consult with the Site Coordinator regarding the procedure for verifying direct deposit information.