



1. Your card will automatically come to you. You don't need to do anything as long as your address is up to date. If you need to update their address, **[visit your mySocial Security account.](#)**
2. Your new card will have a **NEW Medicare Number** that's unique to you, instead of your Social Security Number. This will help to protect your identity.
3. Your Medicare coverage and benefits will stay the same.
4. Your card may arrive at a different time than your friend's or neighbor's. Mailing takes time.
5. The new card is paper, which is easier for many providers to use and copy.
6. Once you receive your new Medicare card, you should destroy your old Medicare card and start using your new card right away.
7. **If you have a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO), your Medicare Advantage Plan ID card is your main card for Medicare**—you should still keep and use it whenever you need care. And, if you have a Medicare drug plan, make sure you keep that card as well. Even if you use one of these other cards, you also may be asked to show your new Medicare card, so keep it with you.
8. Doctors, other health care providers and facilities know it's coming and will ask you for your new Medicare card when they need care.
9. Give your new Medicare Number to **doctors, pharmacists, other health care providers, their insurers, or people they trust to work with Medicare on your behalf.**
10. If you forget your new card, your doctor or other health care provider may be able to look up your NEW Medicare Number online.