

Old Passport: Keep Before You Destroy

Use this checklist before cutting, punching, shredding, or surrendering a passport

STOP AND KEEP IT SECURE

Don't destroy the passport until every question has a clear answer.
If any answer is no or unsure, keep it secure and check with the relevant authority.

Keep any passport you still need for a valid visa, renewal, citizenship evidence, or an open matter, even when every check is complete.

	YES	NO	N/A	UNSURE
Are you the owner, or are you legally authorized to handle this passport?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Have you checked every visa with the embassy or consulate that issued it?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Have you confirmed whether you need this passport for renewal?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Do you have other acceptable citizenship evidence if this passport could serve as evidence?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Have you checked any open immigration, residency, legal, tax, or travel-history matter?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Has the issuing passport authority confirmed whether it must be kept, returned, or surrendered?	☐	☐	☐	☐
Have you received your new passport and all separately returned documents?	☐	☐	☐	☐

ANY NO OR UNSURE? KEEP IT AND CHECK.

For a US passport, start with travel.state.gov. For another country, contact its passport authority. Ask the issuing embassy or consulate about any visa.

Who you contacted and what they told you

Date checked Next step