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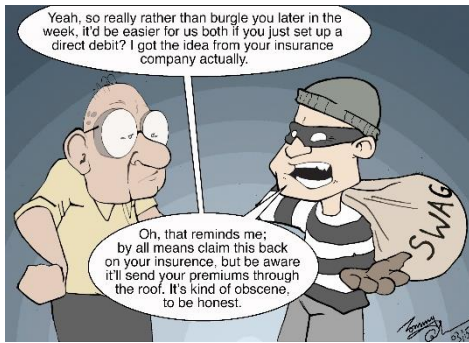
Direct Debits

The easy way to pay your bills....

Direct Debits occur when you agree for a business to deduct an amount to cover the costs of their services from your bank account or credit card on a regular basis. This might be a fixed amount (ie gym membership) or a variable amount (ie electricity account). Even some other payment services like [ZipPay](#) or [AfterPay](#) prefer you to pay them by direct debit.

Positive Features

It is convenient. You generally save money by avoiding late fees or credit card charges.



Negative Features

Set and forget – the most notorious example of this is gym memberships – at least if you had to go in once a month to pay, you would feel some inconvenience and quit. If you happen to be a little short in your account when the direct debit is due you cop a barrage of extortionate bank fees.

For more details about direct debits visit this [ASIC Moneysmart](#) website and browse



Is a direct debit your best option?

Direct debits can be a convenient way to pay your bills, but they take the control of making payments away from you. If a business offers a discount or cheaper rate for setting up a direct debit, ask if you are eligible for the same discount if you set up an automatic payment through your online banking.

The company you are dealing with controls the direct debit, but you can start, stop and change an automatic payment yourself.

