

*have a very*



*bitcoin  
christmas*



**Keep This  
Safe, Do  
Not Lose It!**

Attached is a Bitcoin Paper Wallet. If you haven't heard of Bitcoin yet, it's a fairly new technology, that's also a currency and a commodity (and lot more). Some believe the value of Bitcoin is weird bubble, that it will someday be worthless. **Some believe each Bitcoin will become worth tens of thousands (if not millions) of dollars. With that possibility, please store this Bitcoin wallet somewhere safe! You can think of it as a lottery ticket, and if you lose it, the current (and potential) value will be lost.**

This Bitcoin wallet is for \_\_\_\_\_ Bitcoins, and the current value of this wallet is \$\_\_\_\_\_. The value of a Bitcoin can be very volatile, the price can change dramatically every hour or day, so the value of the wallet could be very different by the time you look at it (a simple website to check the value of Bitcoin is Preev.com). At the beginning of 2013, a Bitcoin was worth less than \$10. At its top price this year, one Bitcoin was worth over \$1200. Some think the value could be ten times its current value in 2014. But no one really knows.

## **Using Your Bitcoin Paper Wallet**

If you ever want to cash in your Bitcoin for dollars, there are many websites online that allow you to do so (an easy one is Coinbase.com). Or you can simply come to me, and I will help you exchange it for U.S. dollars.

The QR code you see on the outside of the Paper Wallet represents a Public Key. If you scan it with a QR code reader, you'll get a long string of numbers and letters (also printed on the wallet). Anyone can send you Bitcoin if they know your Public Key, and you can use the Public Key to check the value of your Bitcoin wallet (just scan the QR code, copy the string of digits, and past it into the "search" box at the website BlockChain.info).

Inside the folded paper wallet is your Private Key (another QR code, with a different string of digits). The Private Key is necessary to send, spend, or cash in the value of your paper wallet (keep it safe and keep it secret)! If you wanted to cash in the paper wallet, a Bitcoin website like Coinbase.com can use a web-enabled camera on your smartphone or computer to scan the Private Key, and transfer the value in dollars to your bank account.

## **More About Bitcoin**

A lot of people are buying Bitcoin, speculating that the price will rise over time, as it has so far. But you can also spend Bitcoin to buy products and services. Every day, more and more stores and websites accept Bitcoin as payment. A merchant can accept Bitcoin just like they accept a credit card, but still get paid with cash, because there are payment processors that will handle the conversion safely (BitPay.com is the biggest such company).

Hundreds of millions of dollars are being invested right now by venture capitalists, attempting to build great things using the Bitcoin protocol, believing Bitcoin will become a mainstream backbone technology, kind of like the TCP/IP technology that is behind almost everything we do on the internet (most of us have no clue what TCP/IP is, but without it, we would not have the internet as we know it). Many believe that in the future, amazing technologies will be built on top of the Bitcoin protocol, just as shopping, entertainment, communication, access to banking, and many other great things have been built using the Internet.

The very unique thing about Bitcoin is that it has no centralized server or authority. It is a peer-to-peer technology, allowing any two people connected to the internet, anywhere in the world, to safely transfer any amount of money (pennies or millions of dollars), for a fee no more than a few cents. And the transfer is almost instant. There is no intermediary who can block the payment, it's almost like handing someone cash over the internet.

I give you this Bitcoin wallet with the hope that, in a few years, it may be worth 10 or 100 times what it's worth today. Please let me know if you have any questions about it. And keep it safe!