

What actually happens when you send, and why it cannot be undone

"I sent it to the wrong place. Can it be recalled?"

No. You broadcast an instruction, the network confirms it in a few seconds to a few minutes, and it becomes part of a permanent public record. There is no recall, no chargeback, and no central party with the authority to reverse it.

The sequence

You enter a destination address and an amount. Your wallet signs that instruction with your key. The signed instruction is broadcast to thousands of computers, which check that the signature is valid and the balance exists. It is then bundled into a block and appended to the chain. That is settlement — and it is final at that moment, not days later.

Compare a bank wire: it moves through your bank, possibly correspondent banks, and the beneficiary bank, over hours or days, with humans and compliance systems in the path. Those humans are exactly why a wire can sometimes be recalled. Crypto has none of them.

What 'confirmations' mean

After your transaction is in a block, more blocks are added on top. Each one is another confirmation, making reversal progressively more infeasible. An exchange might wait for a set number before crediting you. This is a measure of finality, not a review window — nobody is checking whether you meant to send it.

The one genuine possibility, and its limits

If the funds reach an account at a regulated exchange, the money is inside a company again — a company with records, obligations, and an address for legal process. That is the one situation where a freeze is realistically possible, and it takes law enforcement or a court order, not a phone call from you.

Certain assets can also be frozen by the company that issued them. USDT and USDC are not independent currencies; they are tokens issued by a business. That business can block a specific address on its own contract. It is the single most effective lever a victim has, and it is time-critical in hours.

How this gets used against people

Fraud operators rely on the delay between your sending and your understanding. They also rely on the reverse misunderstanding — victims who believe nothing can ever be done sometimes fail to act during the short window when the issuer freeze or the exchange freeze genuinely could have worked.

What you can check yourself

- Every transaction has a hash — a long string starting 0x, or a similar identifier. That is your receipt and your evidence. Keep it.
- You can look any transaction up yourself on a block explorer. You do not need permission or an account.
- If funds have just left and the asset is USDT, the next few hours matter more than the next few weeks.

Published free by BlockchainFraud.org. Generated Fri, 16 Oct 2026 08:22:49 GMT.

Disclaimer

This document is general information about how cryptocurrency systems and common frauds work. It is not legal advice, not financial advice, and not a substitute for either. Nothing in it guarantees or predicts the recovery of any funds.

BlockchainFraud.org charges a flat fee stated in advance and never a percentage of any recovery. We will never contact you unsolicited offering to recover funds, and anyone who does should be treated as a likely recovery scam.