



tdfl

COMPANION PASS

strategies for **2024**

HOW TO EARN BUY-ONE, GET-ONE
FLIGHTS ON SOUTHWEST AIRLINES

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what is companion pass?

Companion Pass is a perk offered by Southwest Airlines that allows you to get buy-one, get-one free flights!

With the pass, each time you book a flight on Southwest (whether you book it with points or with cash), you can choose a companion to fly with you for free. The companion will only have to pay taxes and fees.

Taxes and fees on all domestic flights are only \$5.60 per flight (or \$11.20 per roundtrip). Taxes and fees on international flights vary, and can range from under \$100 - \$200. Our taxes for the Grand Caymans and Cancun, for example, were \$96 per roundtrip flight.



rules for earning companion pass



There are two ways to earn a Companion Pass

- Fly 100 one-way flights in one calendar year or
- Earn 135,000 points in one calendar year

The calendar year must be from January 1 - December 31 and resets every January 1.

When you earn a Companion Pass, it is valid for the year you earn it in PLUS the entire following year! Thus, to make the most of your pass, it's best to earn the pass as early in the year as possible.

The easiest way to earn the pass is via points & that's what we'll focus on in this guide.

Pick one of the 6 strategies in this guide to earn your pass! Some strategies are easier than others. Most people use Strategy 1. Strategy 5 is the toughest.

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STRATEGY ONE

ONE BUSINESS CARD + ONE PERSONAL CARD

STEP ONE.

Apply for the Southwest Rapid Rewards® Performance Business credit card.

You'll earn 80,000 bonus points after you spend \$5,000 in purchases in the first 3 months. Plus, you'll earn 5,000 points from the spend you put on the card to earn your sign up bonus.

Total points earned = 85,000

STEP TWO.

Apply for a personal Southwest credit card after you meet the minimum spend on your Southwest business card.

Southwest has three personal credit cards, and you can only hold one of them at a time. Each card is currently offering 50,000 points after you spend \$1,000 in the first 3 months.

Total points earned = 51,000

SOUTHWEST PERSONAL CREDIT CARD OPTIONS:

Southwest Rapid Rewards® Plus Credit Card
Southwest Rapid Rewards® Premier Credit Card
Southwest Rapid Rewards® Priority Credit Card

85,000 points + 51,000 points = 136,000 points = Companion Pass!



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STRATEGY TWO

TWO BUSINESS CARDS

STEP ONE.

Apply for the Southwest Rapid Rewards® Performance Business credit card.

You'll earn 80,000 bonus points after you spend \$5,000 in purchases in the first 3 months. Plus, you'll earn 5,000 points from the spend you put on the card to earn your sign up bonus.

Total points earned = 85,000

STEP TWO.

Apply for the Southwest Rapid Rewards® Premier Business credit card after you meet the minimum spend on your Southwest Rapid Rewards® Performance Business card.

You'll earn 60,000 bonus points after you spend \$3,000 in the first 3 months. Plus, you'll earn 3,000 points from the spend you put on the card to earn your sign up bonus.

Total points earned = 63,000

Note: Both of the Southwest business cards are issued by Chase. Chase has a 1/30 Rule for business cards, meaning they will only approve you for a business card once every 30 days. Therefore, wait at least 30 days between applications if you choose strategy two.

85,000 points + 63,000 points = 148,000 points = Companion Pass!



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STRATEGY THREE

ONE BUSINESS CARD + 2 REFERRALS

STEP ONE.

Apply for the Southwest Rapid Rewards® Business Performance credit card.

You'll earn 80,000 points after you spend \$5,000 in purchases in the first 3 months. Plus, you'll earn 5,000 points from the spend you put on the card to earn your sign up bonus.

Total points earned = 85,000

STEP TWO.

Refer two friends, family members, and/or internet strangers.

You'll earn 20,000 per referral. You can find your personal referral link in your Chase app under Manage Account > Refer a friend.

Total points earned = 40,000

STEP THREE.

Wait for your 10,000 annual cardholder bonus points to post.

If you are a Southwest cardholder, Southwest will automatically grant you 10,000 companion pass points each year on January 31 if you are a cardholder as of the first business day of the year, or within 30 days of card opening if you aren't a cardholder on the first business day of the year. (These 10,000 cardholder bonus points can only be used toward companion pass, not for booking flights)

85,000 points + 40,000 points + 10,000 points = 135,000 points = Companion Pass!



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STRATEGY FOUR

ONE BUSINESS CARD + ADDITIONAL SPENDING

STEP ONE.

Apply for the Southwest Rapid Rewards® Business Performance credit card.

You'll earn 80,000 points after you spend \$5,000 in purchases in the first 3 months. Plus, you'll earn 5,000 points from the spend you put on the card to earn your sign up bonus.

Total points earned = 85,000

STEP TWO.

Continue to spend on your business card until you reach a total of 135,000 points.

With your 10,000 point cardmember boost (discussed on Page 6), you'll need to earn an additional 40,000 points from spending on your card.

Total points earned = 40,000

SUGGESTIONS FOR EARNING POINTS:

Place all your spending on the card
Pick up the tab when you're out with friends and have them Venmo you
Buy gift cards to places you regularly shop

85,000 points + 40,000 points + 10,000 points = 135,000 points = Companion Pass!



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STRATEGY FIVE

ONE PERSONAL CARD + ADDITIONAL SPENDING

STEP ONE.

Apply for any of the 3 Southwest personal cards.

You'll earn 50,000 points after you spend \$1,000 in purchases in the first 3 months. Plus, you'll earn 1,000 points from the spend you put on the card to earn your sign up bonus.

Total points earned = 51,000

STEP TWO.

Continue to spend on your business card until you reach a total of 135,000 points.

With your 10,000 point cardmember boost (discussed on Page 6), you'll need to earn an additional 74,000 points via spending on your card.

Total points earned = 74,000

SOUTHWEST PERSONAL CARD OPTIONS:

Southwest Rapid Rewards® Plus Credit Card
Southwest Rapid Rewards® Premier Credit Card
Southwest Rapid Rewards® Priority Credit Card

51,000 points + 74,000 points + 10,000 points = 135,000 points = Companion Pass!



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STRATEGY SIX

TWO COMPANION PASSES

If you have a Player 2 (someone you travel hack with), you can sign up for three credit cards together and earn 2 companion passes. Here's how!

Player One will use Strategy 3 & Player Two will use Strategy 1

STEP ONE - PLAYER ONE

Apply for the **Southwest Rapid Rewards® Business Performance credit card**.

You'll earn 80,000 points after you spend \$5,000 in purchases in the first 3 months. Plus, you'll earn 5,000 points from the spend you put on the card to earn your sign up bonus.

STEP TWO - PLAYER ONE

Refer Player 2 to the **Southwest Rapid Rewards® Business Performance credit card**.

You'll earn 20,000 points from the referral.

STEP THREE - PLAYER ONE

After Player 2 has met the minimum spend on the **Southwest Rapid Rewards® Business Performance credit card**, refer Player 2 to a personal Southwest card.

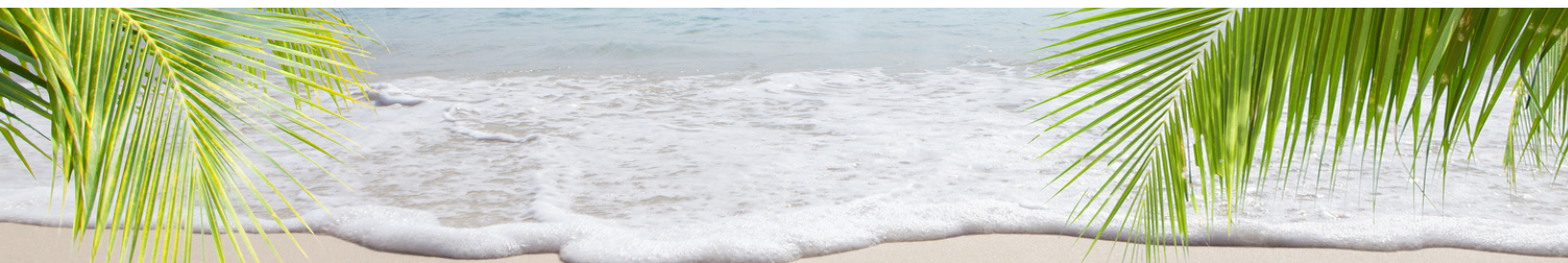
You'll earn 20,000 points from the referral.

At this point, Player 1 has earned a Companion Pass. (85,000 + 20,000 + 20,000 + 10,000 cardholder bonus points (discussed on Page 6) = 135,000 points.

STEP FOUR - PLAYER TWO

Meet the minimum spend on both cards which Player 1 referred you to: a business card and a personal card. You'll earn 85,000 points from the business card and 51,000 points from the personal card, which is 136,000 points and enough for a Companion Pass.

NOTE: You can refer to all 3 Southwest personal cards and both Southwest business cards from either a business or personal Southwest card



companion pass faqs



1. How many times can I use my companion pass?

You can use your pass an unlimited number of times! Once you earn the pass, it's valid for the year you earn it PLUS the entire following year.

2. How do I designate my companion?

Log into your account on Southwest.com. On the main screen, select "Enter Companion Info." Enter the requested information and click submit.

3. How do I add my companion to a flight?

After you book your flight, go to the "My Trips" section on your Southwest account. Find your flight in the "Upcoming Trips" section and click "Add Companion."

4. How many times can I change my companion?

You can change your companion 3 times a year. You can repeat the same person. You can change your companion by calling Southwest at 1-800-435-9792.

5. Can my companion fly without me?

No! You and your companion must fly together on the same flight.

companion pass faqs - continued



6. Are there any blackout dates or restrictions?

No! As long as there is an available seat on your flight, your companion can fly with you.

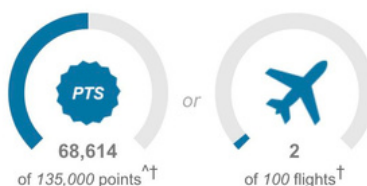
7. To earn a companion pass, can I use the points as I earn them? Or do I have to wait until I have a total of 135,000 points?

You only have to EARN the points in one year. You can spend them as you earn them; there's no requirement that you have to save them all up to hit 135,000 before you start using them. The only requirement is that you EARN 135,000 points in one calendar year.

8. Is there a way to check my progress toward earning companion pass?

Yes, you can log in to your Southwest app and click on your profile. A chart like the one below will show your progress!

Earn your next Companion Pass®.



Designate one lucky person of your choice to fly with you anytime for a year.