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Thread: [Bitcoin Private Key Finders: Legit or Scam?](#)

Newbies - April 14, 2020, 12:19 am

The title says it..is it legit or scam?

Rayner - April 14, 2020, 12:20 am

They're scams. Unless you have access to the key you can't just "find" it.

Newbies - April 14, 2020, 12:31 am

Thanks i got it..was a scam

Sondrox - October 28, 2021, 5:06 am

I am pretty sure they are scams. You just can't find the keys like that.

Maskin - October 28, 2021, 5:27 am

I don't think they are a scam, it's just that you have a better chance of winning the lottery twice before you find a private key with funds on it.

XMR - October 28, 2021, 11:54 am

Technically speaking they work but in practice you'll never find anything. Paying for bitcoin private keys is a blatant scam though, not only because of your astronomically small chances of winning, but you can bet your ass that no one would give you the private key for some rich guy's address for a few dollars.

To get an idea of the scale, if I wanted to find the private key for a certain bitcoin address by randomly trying private keys until I got it, my chances are practically 0. Every random attempt has a 1 in 1,461,501,637,330,902,918,203,684,832,716,283,019,655,932,542,976 ($1.46 \cdot 10^{48}$ or exactly 2^{160}) chance of being successful. To have about a 50% chance of cracking the key you would need to try half of the private key space (2^{159}). If your computer can generate 100k keys/sec, you would be sitting there for 231 decillion ($231 \cdot 10^{33}$) years. For comparison, a typical human body contains $7 \cdot 10^{27}$ atoms.