Receive privately with your .eth

A one-page guide for ENS users.

Your .eth name makes you easy to pay. It also makes every payment to you easy to find: anyone can resolve your name, see the address it points to and read its whole history. Stealth addresses fix the receiving side and you keep the name.

1. What a stealth meta-address is

A stealth meta-address is one public value made of two public keys, a spending key and a viewing key, written as `st:eth:0x` followed by the two keys. A sender combines it with a fresh random number and gets a brand new address that only you can find and spend from. This is ERC-5564, an Ethereum standard. You publish the meta-address once, and every payment lands somewhere new.

What it hides: that the receiving address is yours. **What stays public:** the sender, the amount and the time.

2. Publish it next to your name

- **Live today, onchain.** Register your meta-address in the ERC-6538 registry (`0x6538E6bf4B0eBd30A8Ea093027Ac2422ce5d6538`) from the wallet your .eth points to. One transaction, scheme 1. A sender resolves your name, reads your keys from the registry and pays a fresh address.
- **In discussion.** An ENSIP for stealth address resolution (ENS forum RFC “Privacy-Preserving Names”, ensips PR #88) proposes a text record, `stealth-meta-address[<schemeId>]`, plus an optional CCIP-Read path where a gateway returns a fresh stealth address for each lookup. Two modes are on the table: the meta-address is published and the resolver checks the gateway's answer, or no keys are published and the sender trusts the gateway. It is a draft and not final. Follow the thread before you rely on it.

3. Receive with ephemeral

App: **ephemeral.money/app/beta** (beta on Ethereum mainnet, start with small amounts)

1. Sign once. Your stealth keys are derived on your device and never leave it. ephemeral never holds your funds.
2. Share your pay link, or the meta-address behind it, wherever you would share your address.
3. The app scans the public announcements on your device and shows the payments that are yours.
4. Withdraw with the default checks on (next section).

4. Three habits that undo it, and what to do instead

HABIT	WHY IT LINKS YOU	DO THIS INSTEAD
1. Withdrawing to the wallet your name points to	That wallet is public through your name. One transfer ties the payment back to you.	Withdraw to a fresh address with no history with your named wallet. The app stops you before you withdraw to the wallet your name points to.
2. Sweeping everything at once	One wallet receiving from many stealth addresses ties every payment in the sweep together.	Move only what you need, when you need it. ephemeral has no sweep-all button.
3. Reusing the same exit	Sending every withdrawal to the same place, an exchange deposit address included, builds the same cluster slowly.	Use a different destination per withdrawal, and keep your wallet's default gas tip so withdrawals don't share a rare one.

Also avoid sending funds back to whoever paid you (the app blocks that too), and topping up a stealth address with ETH from your main wallet.

The data

Public Ethereum mainnet data, rescanned 12 Oct 2026, method after Kovács and Seres (2023): **38.92%** of 25,057 withdrawn stealth addresses link back to their owner, **9,711** traced withdrawals went straight to the wallet that registered the keys (for a .eth user, the address the name already points to), and only **9** addresses have ever registered in ERC-6538. Method: ephemeral.money/docs/research/method