



CARD INDUSTRY NEWS



“Contactless transactions performed on Mastercard cards must be authorised.”

ZERO FLOOR LIMITS FOR MASTERCARD CONTACTLESS TRANSACTIONS FROM 1st MARCH 2018

Following the announcements in late 2017 by Visa and American Express about changes to their floor limits to help prevent fraud on lost or stolen cards and to give cardholders a clearer view of their account balance, Mastercard have now also made an announcement.

They've mandated that from 1st March 2018, the floor limit for Contactless transactions performed on their cards will be zero. The only exceptions are for businesses with the Merchant Category Codes (MCC) listed below, where the floor limit is GBP20.

Who's Affected By This Change?

If you trade in the card present, face to face trading environment, accept Contactless card payments from your customers and your business type isn't included in the list below, then you'll be affected.

- 4111 - Commuter Transport
- 4784 Toll/Bridge Fees
- 7523 – Parking
- 7941 – Professional Sports Clubs
- 4112 – Passenger Railways
- 5499 – Convenience Stores
- 7922 – Theatrical Producers
- 7999 – Miscellaneous Recreational Services
- 4131 – Bus Companies
- 5811 – Caterers
- 7929 – Bands/Orchestras
- 8398 – Charitable Organisations

What Do I Need To Do?

If you rent your terminals from us, you don't need to worry about making this change, we'll automatically update them so you meet Mastercard's requirement and timescales.

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If you own your own terminals or rent them from a third party, you'll need to contact your supplier and request that they make the necessary changes for you on or before 1st March 2018.

Not updating your equipment could see your Mastercard Contactless transactions being rejected as they haven't been authorised.

What Does This Change Mean?

It means that Contactless transactions will take a little longer to complete, but how long will depend on the type and speed of your communications infrastructure.



It also means that Mastercard card issuers will have the ability to decline their Contactless transactions. Currently, these are either approved or the issuer requests that the transaction is performed as chip and PIN.

Once you've implemented the new zero floor limit for Mastercard Contactless transactions, it's important that you don't hand over any goods to your customers until you've received the 'approved/authorised' response back to your terminal. The terminal will still 'beep' to show that the card has been successfully read, but this shouldn't be taken as indication that the transaction has completed successfully.

Are Any Other Types Of Contactless Transactions Affected?

As we've previously let you know both Visa and American Express have already reduced the Contactless limit for their Contactless transactions to zero. For more details, please refer to the bulletins provided to you by your Relationship Manager. Alternatively you can visit the Customer Centre on our website www.globalpaymentsinc.co.uk, selecting the option for Card Industry News.

Apple Pay, Android Pay, Samsung Pay, or any other mobile phone based Contactless transactions, will continue to be authorised as they are now regardless of the transaction amount.

If you have any queries regarding this mandate, please contact your Relationship Manager or call us on 0345 702 3344*, selecting the option for 'all other enquiries'.

*Lines are open between 9am – 6pm Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays. To help us continually improve our service and in the interests of security, we may monitor and/or record your telephone calls with us. Any recordings remain our sole property. We also provide a Textphone service on 0345 602 4818.