

# Card and contactless payments



Guides



## Card and Contactless payments

The covid crisis of 2020 has hastened the move towards a cashless society driven by customers not carrying or wishing to handle cash and businesses wanting to make transactions as safe as possible whilst cutting out transmission of the disease.

A number of businesses have cut out cash payments entirely with the added bonus of making transactions speedily and not having to manage or bank large sums of cash.

The younger generations have been driving cashless transactions for some time preferring to make payments contactless by card or phone and this is now being replicated through society.

Businesses that do not have card or contactless capabilities, if not already, will start to find they are losing business to the competition that can offer these payment methods. It would only take a small loss of business to see many caterers that have been successful struggle to make a profit.

There are a number of card payment options available on the market, and though each comes with a cost, they are not in the realms of being for large businesses only. Many of the machines connect via an App on your smart phone making connectivity safe and easy.

Access Point are not affiliated to any card payment providers and do not deem themselves to be experts on the technology and hence can not make any direct recommendations.

Information on card readers is available from sites such as - [6 Best Card Machines for Small Businesses in the UK \(mobiletransaction.org\)](https://www.mobiletransaction.org)

Please bear in mind this is a fast moving sector with new technology being introduced on a regular basis so always check for the most up-to-date information.

Below are the 6 card readers included on the  [\(mobiletransaction.org\)](https://www.mobiletransaction.org) list with main bullet point information, full information is available via the link.

### **iZettle Reader**

- Widest range of accepted cards
- Works with iOS or Android app
- Fixed rate: 1.75% per transaction
- No contract, no monthly fees

### **SumUp 3G**

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- Accepts the major card brands
- With or without receipt printer
- Fixed rate: 1.69% per transaction
- No contract, no monthly fees

### **Square Reader**

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- Many payment tools included
- Works with iOS or Android app
- Fixed rate: 1.75% per transaction
- No contract, no monthly fees

### **Worldpay**

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- 24/7 customer support
- Mobile, portable & countertop models
- Fees depend on turnover and more
- Traditional payment company

### **Takepayments**

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- Mobile, portable & countertop models
- Multipay terminal for 6 users
- Fees depend on turnover and more
- 12-month contract

### **Barclaycard Business**

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- Accepts the major cards
- Mobile, portable & countertop models
- Fees depend on turnover and more
- 18-month contract with setup fee

Information on all these products are available on the internet including a number of comparisons that can help you decide on the right card reader for your business.

A report on BBC news (15/02/2021) highlighted that 41% of card purchases were made contactless, speeding up the cashless society, and the upper spending limit for contactless may go up to £100. If nothing else this shows the direction purchases are going.