



Espaille Die:

We also offer some newer features on the market, including a hologram effect foil. This is easily created from a two layer die; revealing 2 images which can be seen depending on the angle you hold the card. This hologram effect is available in matt or gloss foil. We also have a selection of dies, such as

a security logo and padlock image; however you can have a personalised die created with your logo for an additional fee. This is a brand new technology designed to increase brand identity and security, also it draws special attention to your product without any need for an expensive hologram.

Foil Stamping:

As well as added features to help with the personalisation, we also provide features which enhance the appearance of your cards. Foil stamped designs are a popular feature which we can be placed onto the laminate surface of your plastic cards, to make them look professional and unique. We can add foil in many different shapes, sizes and even apply them over images to create a smooth and attractive looking finish. The same process is used to create some signature panels, which are ideal for membership cards, as your cards can be signed and validated by the card owner. Cards can be foiled in 2 different methods. Firstly, text and logos can be foiled on to the surface of your cards in a range of colours such as gold and silver. Alternatively you can have text or logos thermally printed onto your cards. This process is perfect for cards which are required quickly as no foiling plates are required. The thermal artwork is surface printed on to the card by ribbon transfer.

Signature Panels:

Another great feature to add personalisation is a Signature panel; where you are able to hand write your details on to the cards. We offer a range of signature panels that look professionally finished and are easy to write on. Signature panels can be added to your cards in a number of methods. The most popular type of signature panel being hot stamped on to the card surface. This process is ideal for cards which only require 1 or 2 panels per card. By using this process your signature panels can be white or clear.



For very small runs of cards, or designs which require multiple panels we can thermal print the signature panels on the surface of your card. This process involves applying the panels to the surface of the card by ribbon transfer. Thermal panels are only available in white, however there are less restrictions regarding size and shapes of panels then with the traditional hot stamped panels.

Lastly, for larger runs of cards, custom shaped cards or again cards which require multiple panels, which are not suited to foiling can be screen printed. The screen print process applies a clear coating to the surface of the card which can easily be hand written on to.

Scratch Panels:

Scratch panels are effective for cards such as the lottery; however have you ever considered a promotional plastic card with scratch panels? These can also be just as effective and worth the investment when attending trade shows or holding events. We produce the same high quality plastic cards including a coating of scratch material over the laminate layer. These can be made in various shapes and sizes and come off easily once scratched, to reveal anything from flat numbering to digitally printed images.



Card Functions

You may be looking for a card which provides a specific service. Below we have explored a variety of card functions on offer here at Company Cards. To help you discover what is best suited to your card requirements, be it a membership card, access control card or ID card you're sure to find the answer here.

Contactless Card Encoding:

Contactless cards can be a secure way to store account identity, therefore they are ideal for containing information such as user passwords. Multifunction cards can also be used to manage system access and other data. We also offer combination technology such as mag stripes on contactless cards. We can even include two chip technologies, for example Mifare 1k and hi tag 2 combined in one card. This enables you to get the most out of your Access Control and ID Cards, creating a multifunctional card.



Encoding:

As opposed to more visible card personalisation choices, you may also wish to store data on your plastic cards. Data can be discretely encoded onto the card via a magnetic stripe or with RFID technology and can be used to tie the card and cardholder to any given transaction via card readers. Ideal for gift cards, membership cards and loyalty cards and access control. As a rule, in the UK, magnetic stripes contain three 'tracks' (lines of data). Track 1, track 2 and track 3. Data can be stored on to any of these three tracks. It is important, should you require encoding of your cards, to tell us the track number which the data is to be stored on. We will also need a start number (if the data is to run sequentially) or the data can be supplied in an excel spreadsheet. As with all card orders, we will provide you with a hard copy encoded proof for testing before producing the full order of cards. Please do test this card on your system to ensure that all is correct before giving us the final approval to print.

Magnetic Stripes:

Magnetic Stripes hold information that can be read once swiped through a reader. Data can easily be encoded onto the card and each card can be encoded with individual information for its intended user. There are 2 types of magnetic stripes available, a Hico magnetic stripe and a Loco magnetic stripe. Please do check with your system provider which type you need before placing your order for plastic cards.

Barcodes and QR Codes:

Barcodes are easy to use and a great money saving way to provide a membership card or access card. A barcode consists of a group of printed and patterned bars and spaces that are designed to be scanned and read into computer memory as a way to identify the data it stores. At Company Cards we can provide both 1D and 2D barcodes; (2D being QR) can hold more information. Like most products we produce here, the barcodes are digitally printed to the core of the card and are protected under PVC laminate.





How the card appears under UV light

Invisible Red Ink

One of the great features of our Indigo presses is the ability to print invisible red ink on to your cards. This specialist ink is only detected when under UV light making it a great security feature for event passes or season tickets for example. We find that this feature is very popular among nightclubs or VIP events where passes need to be checked for authenticity in a dark environment. One quick look at the card under UV light and you can be sure that the pass is not a fraudulent copy.

Metallic Bases

As a way to make your cards look that little bit extra special you can choose to have them printed on one of our range of screen printed metallic bases. This feature is an ideal way of making your card stand out and is also a great way to distinguish between bronze, silver and gold members / clients etc.

Additional Services

Bureau Service

At Company Cards we offer extra services which compliment various products, such as our Bureau service. This service is a great option to look at when having cards created with specific functions, such as encoding. We can hold a stock of your pre-printed plastic cards ready to personalise with your member's names or numbering, as and when you need them.

Fulfilment Service

When looking to organise and send out a batch of cards to your customers we know it can be a stressful job. Therefore we offer a great fulfilment service to help take the hassle out of your plastic card mailing. One of the most powerful services we offer at Company Cards is fulfilment. We can post your membership or loyalty cards directly to your customers, personalised and ready to use. Not only do we produce the plastic cards (with your branding printed on to the core of the card), but we can also print and personalise your letters, attach the card and mail them directly to your customers.