

XceedID Card Printing and Handling Guide



General Information

XceedID® ISO cards are made with layers of PVC and a glossy surface intended for Photo ID printing. Proximity cards and contactless smart cards contain an antenna coil and integrated electronic chip.

Care should be taken to follow these handling and printing recommendations for best results.

Print Design

You may encounter color variations or printing voids with direct to card printers due to surface imperfections caused by the embedded chip and antenna. Avoid large areas with solid or half-tone backgrounds when designing card artwork and use artwork with varied color or pattern to minimize these color variations and printing voids. If the design must print over the internal chip, we recommend the use of a reverse transfer printer. Do not place a photo portrait over the chip location or opposite the edge of a magnetic stripe.

When designing card artwork it's best to print a few test cards, and be ready to make artwork adjustments as needed.

If your printer is capable of edge-to-edge printing, test several cards to check the printer's capability.

Card Handling

Our printable cards are shipped shrink wrapped. Take care not to scratch the cards when opening the wrapping, especially when using a sharp implement.

Handle cards by the edges, not by the flat finished surface. Use lint free gloves or finger cots to prevent hand oils from transferring to the cards, which can cause smudging, fingerprints or other distortions when printing.

Card image quality may vary even with careful card handling. This can be due to printer setup variations, lot to lot material variations, environmental changes, printer types, background color selections and other variables.

XceedID is not responsible for image quality variations. Our cards have been quality tested to meet requirements for high quality images. Failure to achieve a desired image quality is not the fault of the card.

Card Printing Tips

Follow these instructions to achieve best results.

1. Always check cards for manufacturing debris. Sometimes there are small pieces of vinyl on the card. Carefully clean cards using 99% pure Isopropyl alcohol and a soft, lint free cloth.
2. The office where you print the cards should be neat, clean and free of airborne particles.

3. Check the printer's roller frequently. Clean the printer roller after printing 50 cards (or fewer).
4. Fine scuff marks may appear on the surface of cards. These marks do not affect the printer, nor the printed images. These scuff marks occur during final inspection and testing.
5. Printer manufacturers discourage printing cards which are pre-punched. The slot edge may tear the printer ribbon or interfere with card position sensors. Therefore, print your cards first, then slot punch them. For cards that are already punched, do not print in the area near the slot. If the card has an embedded contact chip, keep the printing at least .0625 in [1.5875 mm] away from its edges.

Card Slotting

Our cards have slot punch indicators, small dots visible on the card back which show the only allowable slot locations for the card.

We strongly suggest using badge grippers instead of slot punching the cards. These attachment devices work the same as slot clips, and better maintain the structural integrity of your technology card.

If you must slot punch the card, carefully center the indicator marks to the punch, and punch only where the indicator marks appear. Any other position may damage the interior circuitry.

Always test the first card after printing and slotting. Only run the full card lot once you are satisfied with the results.

XceedID Card Type	Slot Punch?
7500 Series Prox ISO	H or V
8500 Series Contactless Smart ISO	H or V
9500 Series MIFARE® ISO	H or V
9900 Series Multi-tech ISO	H or V

