George

Your Products

Debit Cards

What's the Difference between a Debit Card and a Credit Card?

Last Article Update 12.07.2024

Debit cards are classically often used to withdraw money from ATMs or for everyday purchases, for example at the supermarket or at vending machines. When paying with a debit card, the amount is immediately debited from your current account.

Credit cards are often used for larger purchases or as a flexible and secure payment method abroad. Credit cards allow you to spend money up to a certain credit limit. When using the credit card, the amount is not debited immediately, but the credit card account is charged. Once a month, you receive a statement and can pay back the amount either all at once or in instalments. In this case, fees will be charged.

Read this (

English ∨

Content

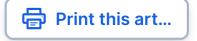
Pay contactless

What you should bear in mind

The most significant difference

Share this article







(i) A tip

Some credit cards include a travel insurance. Before you go on a trip, you should inform yourself about the coverage of your credit card in order to be protected in case of an emergency.

Pay contactless

Contactless payments are a convenient way to make purchases and are possible with both credit and debit cards. If you want to pay without physical card, you can activate Google Pay or Apple Pay, which are mobile payment solutions. You can add both your debit or credit card to your wallet and can then make contactless payments with your smartphone or smartwatch by holding your device towards the payment terminal.

What you should bear in mind

Before making a large payment, it is a good idea to check the limits of your debit card and credit card to know the amount or limit up to which you can use the card. This already sometimes helps you to decide which card you want to use when and where.

You can see the limit of your debit card at George in your current account by clicking on the debit card. George shows you the limit of your credit card in the app by clicking on

"Functions" for the desired card and in the desktop version when you select your card in the menu or in the overview.



(i) Attention

You can use your debit card to make cashless payments wherever you see the Mastercard logo, including on the Internet. Your payments are debited from your current account immediately. But be aware: some companies, such as car rental companies, only accept credit cards.

The most significant difference

So the main difference is that debit cards use the existing balance on the current account, while with credit cards you actually borrow money up to a certain credit limit without extra fees. The decision on which type of card to use depends entirely on your individual financial needs and preferences.



(i) Did you know?

You can change the PIN code of your credit card in the self-service foyer of a branch according to your wishes.

Author: Tamara Berger-Feichter

Related Articles

Authorisations

Apple Pay

Google Pay

Credit card notifications

Did this content help you understand George better?

Oh yes! G(e)orgeous.

No, please improve this Help Center content.

George

George Login

Impr Data & int Privacy

Cook ies © 2023 Erste Group

Bank AG