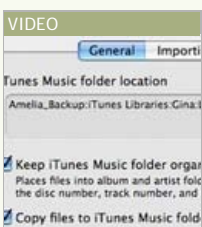


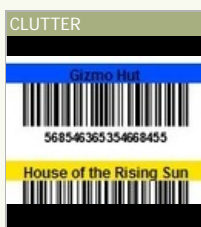
What the New Credit Card Rules Mean for You



Lifehacker Laptop Bags: Jason Fitzpatrick Edition



Move Your iTunes Library to an External Hard Drive



KeyRingThing Creates One Bonus Card to Rule Them All



CLUTTER

# KeyRingThing Creates One Bonus Card to Rule Them All

By Jason Fitzpatrick, 6:45 AM on Tue May 19 2009, 27,958 views



Thousands of businesses have loyalty cards that reward you with everything from coupons to free pet food if you display them at checkout. KeyRingThing creates one bonus card or keyring tag for all your stores.

We showed you how to make your own space saving card before, but it involved scanning, photo editing and maybe a little bit more effort than you wanted to put into the project just to shave a centimeter or two off your wallet's width. Update: As Jay points out, you can get similar results from previously mentioned Just One Club Card.

KeyRingThing is a service that makes creating a space saving card a snap. Using their template generator, you create a double-sided card with up to three barcodes on each side. You can print and laminate the template on your own dime or you can pay \$2.97 to have them mail you a higher-quality version printed on credit-card material. If you don't have a printer and a laminate machine, you'll likely spend nearly as much making your card at a copy shop.

You can select from a list of well known stores like Office Depot or Borders Books or, if you have less conventional shopping habits, you can enter your own business names. If the store isn't in the database, it asks you to check the barcode style against the physical loyalty card to match it up. Loyalty cards that have just a number work as well. KeyRingThing is free to use, you only pay if order a heavy-duty card. If you have your own solutions for cutting down on loyalty and perk card clutter, sound off in the comments below.

KeyRingThing [via Simple Productivity Blog]

READ MORE: CLUTTER, ORGANIZATION, TIME SAVERS, TOP



Los Angeles, 7:03 AM  
Wed May 20  
23 posts in the last 24 hours  
AU | JP

Suggest a post:  
tips@lifehacker.com

Get help:  
Report a problem

lifehacker team

Editor:  
Adam Pash  
Email | AIM | Twitter

Senior Editor:  
Kevin Purdy  
Email | AIM | Twitter

Weekend Editor:  
Jason Fitzpatrick

Email | Twitter

Contributing Editor:

The How-To Geek

Email | Twitter

Founding Editor:

Gina Trapani | Twitter

Interns:

Erin Schwendemann

Email

Rosa Golijan

Email

Lifehacker shop



Buy our new book!

Upgrade Your Life



38 DISCUSSIONS



Classic view | Expand all

Start a new discussion



Show: **Oldest first** | Newest first | Most popular

1 2 next » [1..20 of 38]



**achoke**

6:54 AM on Tue May 19 2009

6:54 AM on Tue May 19 2009

awesome! I will test this out and laminate today! Great idea...



**Vilku**

6:57 AM on Tue May 19 2009

6:57 AM on Tue May 19 2009

Unfortunately, most Finnish businesses rely on magnet cards, which are a bit trickier to fuse into one :P

3 replies



3 replies by EdwinaCoates, jupiterthunder, zormal



**dangerp**

6:59 AM on Tue May 19 2009

6:59 AM on Tue May 19 2009

This looks like an awesome idea, but I don't think I'll really use it, since all of the loyalty cards I have can be quickly looked up by phone number. If I ever go down the path of a physical card again though, I will definitely go with this.

6 replies



6 replies by wickedcupofjoe, Hiram-Q-Pustule, Don't take... ..



**JRoscoe**

7:05 AM on Tue May 19 2009

7:05 AM on Tue May 19 2009

Still stuck with Sam's Club and Subway, which are 2 of the only ones where you can't just look it up at the register anyway.



**Jay Wiegmann**

7:10 AM on Tue May 19 2009

7:10 AM on Tue May 19 2009

juststoneclubcard.com is another method for this I've been using for years now.

3 replies

SUBSCRIBE TO

LIFEHACKER

New: Breaking news and daily top stories via email

11877 Subscribers

Also, there's an iPhone app Cardstar that reports to do the same thing, but I've not tested its ability to produce machine readable bar codes yet.



3 replies by Tankueray, Kara Monroe, VictoriaCerdo



**fasteddie**

7:12 AM on Tue May 19 2009

7:12 AM on Tue May 19 2009  
1 reply

[[www.justoneclubcard.com](http://www.justoneclubcard.com)] does much the same - except for the laminating part. But it also lets you create any bar code in the "advanced view" - which lets me put my library card as well as my wife's on a single card. ( it's codabar with leading and trailing "A").



1 reply by RamseyAnaxagoras



**Yeraze**

7:13 AM on Tue May 19 2009

7:13 AM on Tue May 19 2009  
4 replies

I've been in love with this idea for a while now, and just recently started using an iPhone App called CardStar for it (free for a limited time).. I didn't think barcode readers would read the iPhone LCD but they do! So now I have my cards in my iPhone! One less thing to carry FTW!



4 replies by aethiolas, jupiterthunder, Yeraze ...



**YaronBison**

7:13 AM on Tue May 19 2009

7:13 AM on Tue May 19 2009  
2 replies

My only question is: where is the corresponding iPhone app?



2 replies by eyeerverve, RayDelMundo



**ericslaw**

7:18 AM on Tue May 19 2009

7:18 AM on Tue May 19 2009  
2 replies

Great idea!

and those of you who make them look it up by your phone number... you are slowing down the line!

The iPhone app is an interesting idea... barcode off your LCD display? would that even work?

I guess there are coupon companies that try something like that (Celfire?)



2 replies by Thud, jupiterthunder



**Monamo**

7:20 AM on Tue May 19 2009



7:20 AM on Tue May 19 2009

I used to do this manually by scanning the barcodes from all of my cards and then I'd pare down to just a barcode and store name, line things up, and print off a copy for my wallet. I'd have to replace it every few months (didn't laminate) but it saved me much space in my wallet.

Now I've swapped to the digital method with WalletZero on my Android (though some scanners don't pick up the barcode until I temporarily max out my brightness).



1 reply by Bittermormon



1 reply



**OlympiaElephenor**

7:21 AM on Tue May 19 2009

For some bar codes, this system doesn't work because of the encoding, and there are some hidden numbers when you "make your own". To solve that problem, a photocopier is the best way. I photocopied all my cards, laminated them onto a card I don't use, and now I really do have a multi purpose card.



1 reply by AtConsumeristPanel\_Git...



7:21 AM on Tue May 19 2009

1 reply



**philselmer**

7:23 AM on Tue May 19 2009

I've used JustOneClubCard for a long time. What I do is print it out and tape it to the front of a card that I don't have on the printout. It really increases the lifetime of the barcodes.



7:23 AM on Tue May 19 2009



**Kellscloud**

7:29 AM on Tue May 19 2009

I like it. I just don't like attaching anything to my key ring, not the gym keyscanner or any grocery stores. But, when I go to the grocery store, especially Kroger, if you don't have the card they charge you the regular price. If I had all the cards on one, I feel like I'd use it.



2 replies by whiteflea, Thud



7:29 AM on Tue May 19 2009

2 replies



**aaziz**

7:33 AM on Tue May 19 2009

Whoa, wait, a couple of centimeters? How many cards do you guys carry? The ideal wallet is only about 2cm thick :S



1 reply by Thud



7:33 AM on Tue May 19 2009

1 reply



**jhpope**

7:36 AM on Tue May 19 2009

Loyalty cards almost always come with a keyring version. I keep all of mine on a split ring in the cup holder in my car. You're always driving to the store to use it so it's right there, not taking up space on your keyring or wallet.

Also I put the numbers in a note in my blackberry, in case I forget to bring the ring in. At superfresh, you can punch in the numbers instead of scanning the tag in the self-checkout line.



2 replies by fjpoblam, justinsimon



7:36 AM on Tue May 19 2009  
2 replies



**mac19124**

7:55 AM on Tue May 19 2009

I didn't think stores would accept the cards like this. Nice to see they do [= Maybe I could use my GF's employee discount with this [=



7:55 AM on Tue May 19 2009



**gtx2000**

7:55 AM on Tue May 19 2009

jhpope says: I keep all of mine on a split ring in the cup holder in my car. You're always driving to the store to use it so it's right there, not taking up space on your keyring or wallet.

Exactly. I get out of the car, grab the dedicated key ring, and shop.



7:55 AM on Tue May 19 2009



**Runnin-Ute**

7:56 AM on Tue May 19 2009

I only have a couple of these.

Albertson's and Subway really.

I do have a couple of paper ones, like you see at some restaurants. (10 punches = free meal)

my whole wallet at its thickest point is just a shaed over 3 cm.... (32-33 mm)



7:56 AM on Tue May 19 2009



**Aaron Leon Myers**

8:09 AM on Tue May 19 2009

I've been using Justoneclubcard for awhile now and loving it. I just put clear tape all the way over it to give it a thicker feel and it works great for me. Also, JOCC has a template for you to slide your card into so the cashier doesn't scan the wrong one and get too confused.



8:09 AM on Tue May 19 2009



**Daniel Castiglione Jr**

8:12 AM on Tue May 19 2009

8:12 AM on Tue May 19 2009  
1 reply

Even if you do not have laminating equipment you can still print from home. Just print the card. Cut out just to include the names and barcodes and then use clear packing tape to seal the paper within two layers of tape. I just did this and it's smaller and thinner than a credit card.



1 reply by goodywitch



1 2 next » [1..20 of 38]

**Got something to say? There are 3 ways to comment:**

**1. Guests**

[Click here](#) to comment instantly.

**2. Facebook Users**

[Click here](#) to comment using your Facebook account.



**3. Members**

[Register](#) for an anonymous account or [login](#).

We're looking for comments that are interesting, substantial or highly amusing. If your comments are excessively self-promotional, obnoxious, or even worse, boring, you will be banned from commenting. Consult the [Commenting FAQ](#) and [legal terms](#).

Ads by Google



[Archives](#) [About](#) [Advertising](#) [Legal](#) [Help](#) [Report a Bug](#)

Original material is licensed under a [Creative Commons License](#) permitting non-commercial sharing with attribution.