



State of Idaho

ABCs of Credit Card Finance

Ron G. Crane
Idaho State Treasurer

Checklist for Comparing Credit Cards

Think about how you will use your credit card. Do you expect to

- Pay your monthly bill in full?
- Carry over a balance from month to month?
- Get cash advances?

Once you have decided how you will use your credit card, you can use this checklist to compare cards. Information about most of the features is given in the **disclosure box** that must appear in all printed credit card solicitations and applications.

	Card A	Card B	Card C
What are the APRs?			
For purchases?	_____	_____	_____
For cash advances?	_____	_____	_____
For balance transfers?	_____	_____	_____
If you pay late?	_____	_____	_____
What type of interest does the card have?			
Fixed or variable? Tiered?	_____	_____	_____
How long is the grace period?			
If you carry over a balance?	_____	_____	_____
If you pay off the balance each month?	_____	_____	_____
For cash advances?	_____	_____	_____
How is the finance charge calculated?			
One cycle or two?	_____	_____	_____
Including or excluding new purchases?	_____	_____	_____
Average or adjusted?	_____	_____	_____
Minimum finance charge?	_____	_____	_____
What are the fees?			
Annual?	_____	_____	_____
Late-payment?	_____	_____	_____
Over-the-credit-limit?	_____	_____	_____
Set-up?	_____	_____	_____



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What are the cash advance features?

Transaction fees? _____

Limits? _____

How much is the credit limit?

What kind of card is it?

Secured, Regular, or Premium? _____

Does the card offer other features?

Rebates? _____

Frequent-flier miles? _____

Insurance? _____

Other? _____