



CREDIT CARD STAR RATINGS

Report No. 5

May 2007

IN THIS REPORT WE LOOK AT ...

- ★ Fees: the dreaded four-letter word
- ★ Control tactics – find a card that suits how you spend and repay
- ★ How a few penalties can turn a no-frills card into a high-interest nightmare



FEES: THE DREADED FOUR-LETTER WORD

Bank fees are a hot topic of conversation at the moment, as they are coming under more scrutiny than ever. Here in New Zealand, we are seeing the Commerce Commission currently investigating credit card companies for unreasonable charges on late bill payments. This comes on top of five New Zealand banks recently being fined in court over lack of disclosure on currency conversion fees.

Across the Tasman, media has had a field day with recent figures released by the Reserve Bank of Australia showing, among others, a jump of 21% in credit card fee income – mainly penalty fees, over-limit fees and foreign currency conversion fees.

In the UK last year, the British Fair Trading Office found that late payment fees were unfair and did not reflect the cost of dealing with a late payment. Banks there were forced to reduce their penalty charges for credit cards to a maximum £12 (from an average of £30), and the office has now opened an investigation to establish what the real costs of current account penalty charges are. There has also been a consumer challenge over the legality of penalty fees imposed by British banks, with many banks electing to refund customers prior to further action being taken.

At this point the need to differentiate between fees and penalty fees is important. CANEX's database tracks over 25 different types of credit card fees. The most common fees incurred, to varying degrees, by credit card holders include:

- Annual fees
- Secondary card fees
- Cash advance fees
- Foreign currency conversion fees

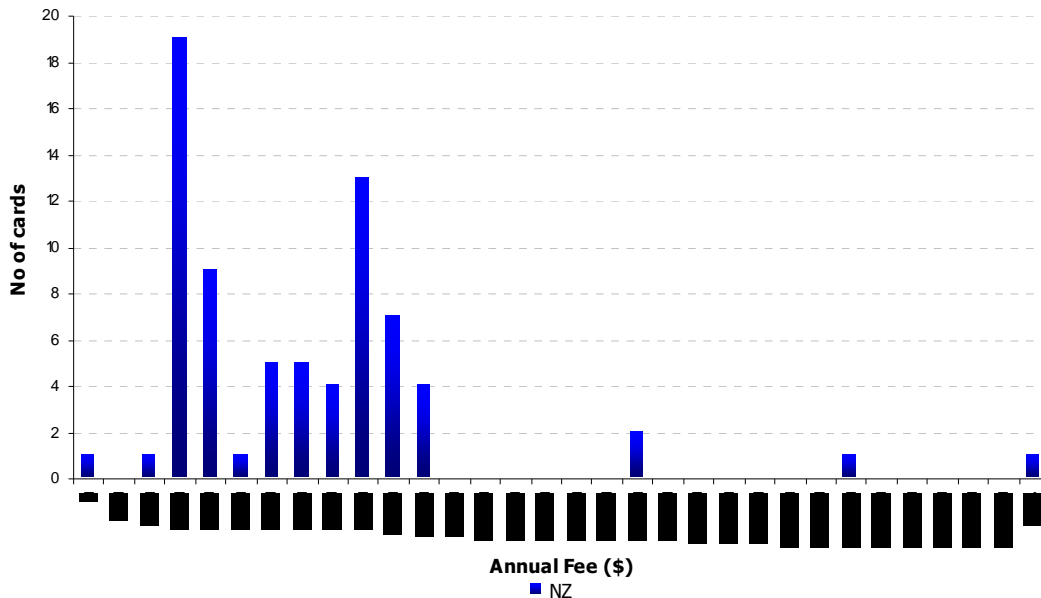
Penalty fees incurred by credit card users typically consist of:

- Over the limit penalty
- Late payment penalty

Fees are charged to cover the cost of providing a product, a line of unsecured credit in this case, and specific types of transactions. Penalty fees, on the other hand, are charged by the institutions to discourage consumers from using their card in a manner contradictory to terms and conditions under which the card was issued.

FROM ZERO TO \$300

Annual fees on credit cards now range from zero to \$300. This reflects the breadth of cards offered on the market. As shown below, the biggest growth category has been in the cards charging an annual fee between \$20 and \$30. There is one card with no annual fee attached and at the other end of the scale, we see a small number of cards creeping into the higher end bracket, charging up to \$300 annual fee. These are typically gold cards with big rewards attached. The variety of cards in the marketplace reinforces the need for consumers to be vigilant in assessing competitive offers before selecting the right card.



CONTROL TACTICS

With all the negative media about credit card fees, consumers can take heart. If you are serious, it is possible to minimize credit card fees and avoid penalties altogether by being honest about your needs and knowing the rules.

NZ Credit Card - Penalties			
	Average	Min	Max
Over the limit	14.64	0	25
Late payment penalty*	23.56	0	25

* based on minimum penalty which may apply

Finding a credit card you can have a truly meaningful relationship with is not unlike a dating service. The first step is to be crystal clear on what your spending and repayment behaviour is currently like. This should not be confused with what you would ideally like your spending and repayment pattern to be, as the two may well be poles apart.

First up, you should decide which of the following four profiles most closely fits you?

- **Habitual Spender** – Do you use your card often, a little too often perhaps, and then struggle to pay off the debt?

- **Impulse Spender** - Do you only use your card for emergencies and impulsive spending (such as Christmas shopping, holidays or sales) then spend the next few months paying off the balance?
- **Everyday Spender** – Do you make all your regular purchases, such as groceries and petrol, on the card but are disciplined enough to pay off your balance each month?
- **Big Spender** – Do you earn and spend a lot of money on your credit card each year, and always pay off your balance in full?

Next, scrutinize credit card products and become familiar with all features, flexibilities and possible costs associated with those products. CANNEX *star ratings* makes this easy, as all credit cards are rated according to the four profiles above. Five star credit cards offer the very best deal for consumers in that particular profile.

A picture of the ideal match for you will now be starting to take shape. If you fall into the Habitual or Impulse Spender category, a low rate card with a very low or no annual fee should be mandatory. Everyday and Big Spenders who don't have to fret over interest rates can look for a card that provides extra loyalty features and perks that would be of value to them.

Finding your perfect match is not only blissful, it is essential if you aim to minimize fees you pay to use the credit card and avoid penalties incurred if you misuse the card.

A PERFECT MIS-MATCH

Opposites might attract in real life partnerships but signing yourself up to the wrong credit card can be a costly mistake. Look at it this way - if the card was a person you were dating and it was costing you money and going nowhere in the long term relationship, how long would you keep dating?

Alternatively, careless behaviour or taking your credit card for granted can only end up in tears.

Let's examine the cases of three people who have made the wrong choices and are paying the price.

Shopaholic Sarah will flash the plastic at the drop of a Manolo Blahnik stiletto. At 25, Sarah's favourite therapy is retail. To feed her habit, she has a platinum credit card which allows her to accumulate frequent flyer points. Her card charges an annual fee of \$100 and an interest rate of 19.95%.

Because she shops so much, Sarah figures she should easily clock up the frequent flyer points needed for an overseas shopping holiday. The trouble is, Sarah spends, on average, \$1,000 per month but has a debt of \$5,000 constantly revolving on her credit card.

Verdict: Sarah is paying a high price per year for a dream. She will not accumulate all frequent flyer points until she pays off her balance. She is also paying a premium interest rate of 19.95% every month on a balance which seems to hover at \$5,000. Plus she is paying an annual fee of \$100 for the privilege.

Solution: Sarah could save herself over \$400 per year if she switched to a no-frills card with an interest rate of 12.90% and a low annual fee. Many no-frills cards also offer instant reward schemes which will be more accessible in Sarah's case. Because the overall cost of a no-frills card is lower, Sarah may also find she can repay more of her debt every month. This will help her financial situation.



Ralph the Rock is the person family, friends and work colleagues lean on in times of turbulence. His granite-like demeanour, which automatically repels risk, impulse and adventure, has been a contributing factor to his meteoric rise to middle management after 35 years in the same job. Ralph likes order and sensibility. This is reflected in his choice of credit card. No-frills for him, a low annual fee and no rewards program to pay extra for. Just as he spends \$5,000 on his card per month, he religiously pays off that \$5,000 before it accrues any interest. It's perfect, if somewhat dull, behaviour.

Verdict: There's no doubt Ralph is coasting along nicely but because of his responsible credit card behaviour, he is a prime candidate to benefit from a card that offers more bells and whistles.

Solution: Ralph can do better if he lets his hair down a little and gets himself, say, a gold card. Because he pays in full each month, interest rate is not the main concern. Sure Ralph would pay a bigger annual fee but the points he earns for spending \$60,000 a year will offset the annual fee. On top of that, he can use the excess points on premium services such as insurance products or a reward program. A gold card, too, allows a slightly higher limit to avoid the balance exceeding his credit limit, thus incurring penalties.

NZ Credit Card Cost Comparison				
	Sarah		Ralph	
	Platinum Card	No frills card	No frills card	Gold Card
Spent on card/month	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Balance revolve/month	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$0
Annual fee	100	50	50	100
Interest Rate	19.95%	12.90%	12.90%	19.95%
Total cost/year	\$1,097.50	\$695.00	\$30.00	\$250.00
Savings		\$402.50		-\$220.00
Note				

HOW A NO-FRILLS CARD CAN TURN INTO A HIGH INTEREST NIGHTMARE

Laidback Larry will never suffer a stress ulcer. As a young student working part-time, he's too cool for that. He also can't see what all the fuss is about with finance. Is it really the end of the world if the phone company direct debits his credit card, leaving him over his credit limit? Larry's \$2,000 credit card always seems to have \$1,500 owed on it each month so it's no surprise that things get a little tight at times (didn't the phone company realise that when they did it to him again?!!!). Larry also has a habit of losing track of time and on two occasions in the previous year was hit with late repayment penalties

Verdict: Cool can be costly. Larry is \$100 out of pocket through poor planning and sloppy credit card behaviour. That means his mother will have to wait another week for the board owed.

Solution: The no-frills card Larry has is perfect. It has a low annual fee of \$50 and costs him an annualized interest rate of 17.90%. However, the sting is that Larry's four penalty fees mean, in effect, he is paying 27.90% interest and that's way over the highest gold card interest on offer which is 20.49%. If Larry had chosen a similar no-frills card 2 (below) he would be much better off because card 2 would have waived the fees for being over the limit if he paid before the final day of the monthly statement period.

Impact of Fees on the Card's Overall Costs		
	Card 1	Card 2
Interest rate	12.90%	12.90%
Annual fee	\$50	\$50
Balance accruing interest	\$1,000	\$1,000
Over the limit penalties apply	2x\$25	\$0
Late payment penalties	2x\$25	\$0
Interest Cost	\$129.00	\$129.00
Fee & penalty costs	\$150	\$50
Total Cost	\$279.00	\$179.00
Annualised rate of cost	27.90%	17.90%

Most of us make the occasional slip-up with our credit cards but our example shows that persistent sloppy behaviour, for whatever reason, will hit you hard in the hip pocket. There is no substitute for shopping around for the right card with conditions that will work for you. Check the terms and conditions of all cards. Some, as highlighted above, give you a period of grace when you are over the limit and will only impose a fee if the situation has not been rectified by the final day of the monthly statement period. Others charge a \$20 over-the-limit if the account balance exceeds the approved credit limit by more than 10% in any monthly statement cycle. There are steps you can take to gain control and avoid penalty fees.

For each spender profile there's a handful of excellent product choices that combine value-for-money, factoring in interest rates, fees and features. CANEX five star credit cards for each of the four profiles are listed below.

Our methodology used to rate all credit cards is explained at the very end of the document.

credit card star ratings



Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Habitual Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★★★★★ "superior value"								
ANZ Bank NZ	Low Rate Mastercard	12.90	25	58.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard Low Int Plan	11.95	25	60.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Classic Low Int	10.95	25	60.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
BNZ NZ	Lite VISA Card	12.65	25	60.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✗
Kiwibank NZ	LowInterest MasterCard	12.90	25	50.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
National Bank of NZ	Freestyle MasterCard	15.95	0	0.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
Westpac NZ	Low Interest MasterCard	12.65	25	65.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
★★★★ "exceptional value"								
TSB Bank NZ	Visa Card	17.25	25	18.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
Westpac NZ	Super 14's Rugby Visa Cd	20.44	25	28.00	N/A	500	100000.00	✓
★★★ "strong value"								
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Classic Standard	18.95	25	20.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
Westpac NZ	Visa	20.49	25	29.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	MasterCard	20.49	25	29.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
◇ "rising star"								
Westpac NZ	The Warehouse MasterCar	18.99	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
★★ "average value"								
BNZ NZ	MCD Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
National Bank of NZ	MCD Thoroughbred	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
National Bank of NZ	VISA Thoroughbred	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
National Bank of NZ	VISA Classic	19.95	25	20.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
Wizard Home Loans	Wizard NZ Fast Card-AME	19.49	25	35.00	5000	1000	12000.00	✓
★ "satisfactory value"								
American Express NZ	AA Credit Card	19.49	25	35.00	N/A	1000	No max	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	MasterCard	19.95	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ANZ Bank NZ	Qantas ANZ Visa	19.95	14	65.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	Visa	19.95	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ASB Bank NZ	Visa	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	0	No max	✓
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	0	No max	✓

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credit card star ratings



Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Habitual Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★ "satisfactory value"								
BNZ NZ	MCD Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	All Blacks MasterCard	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	20000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	55.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	45.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓

credit card star ratings



Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Everyday Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★★★★★ "superior value"								
American Express NZ	Blue Credit Card	19.99	25	35.00	N/A	1500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	Visa Platinum	15.95	25	175.00	60000	10000	250000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	Ltd Edit VISA Platinum	12.15	25	175.00	60000	25000	500000.00	✓
National Bank of NZ	Freestyle MasterCard	15.95	0	0.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
Westpac NZ	Super 14's Rugby Visa Cd	20.44	25	28.00	N/A	500	100000.00	✓
Westpac NZ	Gold MasterCard	20.49	25	70.00	N/A	5000	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	Visa Gold	20.49	25	70.00	N/A	7500	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	Titanium MasterCard	16.95	25	240.00	30000	15000	No max	✓
Wizard Home Loans	Wizard NZ Fast Card-AME	19.49	25	35.00	5000	1000	12000.00	✓
★★★★ "exceptional value"								
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Classic Low Int	10.95	25	60.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold Fee Saver	19.95	25	80.00	20000	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold Fee Saver	19.95	25	80.00	20000	7500	50000.00	✓
National Bank of NZ	MCD Gold Thoroughbred	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	7500	No max	✓
National Bank of NZ	VISA Gold Thoroughbred	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	7500	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	Visa	20.49	25	29.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
★★★ "strong value"								
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	14	80.00	N/A	7500	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold Everyday	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	14	80.00	N/A	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold Everyday	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	7500	50000.00	✓
Westpac NZ	MasterCard	20.49	25	29.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	Low Interest MasterCard	12.65	25	65.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
☆ "rising star"								
Westpac NZ	The Warehouse MasterCar	18.99	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
★★ "average value"								
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard Low Int Plan	11.95	25	60.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
ASB Bank NZ	Visa	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	0	No max	✓

credit card star ratings



Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Everyday Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★★ "average value"								
BNZ NZ	VISA Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold Rewards Plus55	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	7500	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	Lite VISA Card	12.65	25	60.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✗
BNZ NZ	VISA Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
National Bank of NZ	MCD Thoroughbred	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
National Bank of NZ	VISA Thoroughbred	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
TSB Bank NZ	Visa Card	17.25	25	18.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
★ "satisfactory value"								
American Express NZ	AA Credit Card	19.49	25	35.00	N/A	1000	No max	✓
American Express NZ	Gold Credit Card	19.49	25	90.00	N/A	5000	50000.00	✓
American Express NZ	Platinum MemberRews Car	16.99	25	325.00	N/A	5000	100000.00	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	Visa Gold	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	7500	No max	✗
ANZ Bank NZ	Low Rate Mastercard	12.90	25	58.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ANZ Bank NZ	Qantas ANZ Visa Gold	19.95	14	105.00	N/A	7500	No max	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	MasterCard Gold	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	7500	No max	✗
ASB Bank NZ	Visa Gold	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	5000	No max	✓
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	0	No max	✓
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard Gold	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	5000	No max	✓
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Gold	18.75	25	50.00	N/A	7500	No max	✗
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Classic Standard	18.95	25	20.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
BNZ NZ	All Blacks MasterCard	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	20000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	14	80.00	N/A	4000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold GlobalPlus	19.95	14	105.00	N/A	7500	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold GlobalPlus	19.95	14	105.00	N/A	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	55.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	45.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold Rewards Plus5	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	4000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold Fee Saver	19.95	25	80.00	20000	4000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold Everyday	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	4000	50000.00	✓

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credit card star ratings



Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Everyday Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★ "satisfactory value"								
Kiwibank NZ	LowInterest MasterCard	12.90	25	50.00	N/A	500	No max	✘
National Bank of NZ	VISA Classic	19.95	25	20.00	N/A	500	No max	✘
National Bank of NZ	VISA Gold	19.95	25	75.00	N/A	7500	No max	✘

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Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Impulse Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★★★★★ "superior value"								
ANZ Bank NZ	Low Rate Mastercard	12.90	25	58.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard Low Int Plan	11.95	25	60.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Classic Low Int	10.95	25	60.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
BNZ NZ	Lite VISA Card	12.65	25	60.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✗
National Bank of NZ	Freestyle MasterCard	15.95	0	0.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
Westpac NZ	Super 14's Rugby Visa Cd	20.44	25	28.00	N/A	500	100000.00	✓
Westpac NZ	Low Interest MasterCard	12.65	25	65.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
★★★★ "exceptional value"								
Kiwibank NZ	LowInterest MasterCard	12.90	25	50.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
TSB Bank NZ	Visa Card	17.25	25	18.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
Westpac NZ	Visa	20.49	25	29.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	MasterCard	20.49	25	29.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
★★★ "strong value"								
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Classic Standard	18.95	25	20.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
National Bank of NZ	VISA Thoroughbred	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
National Bank of NZ	MCD Thoroughbred	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
National Bank of NZ	VISA Classic	19.95	25	20.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
◇ "rising star"								
Westpac NZ	The Warehouse MasterCar	18.99	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
★★ "average value"								
BNZ NZ	VISA Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
★ "satisfactory value"								
American Express NZ	Blue Credit Card	19.99	25	35.00	N/A	1500	12000.00	✓
American Express NZ	AA Credit Card	19.49	25	35.00	N/A	1000	No max	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	Qantas ANZ Visa	19.95	14	65.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	MasterCard	19.95	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ANZ Bank NZ	Visa	19.95	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✗

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Impulse Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★ "satisfactory value"								
ASB Bank NZ	Visa	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	0	No max	✓
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	0	No max	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	55.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	45.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	All Blacks MasterCard	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	20000.00	✓
Wizard Home Loans	Wizard NZ Fast Card-AME	19.49	25	35.00	5000	1000	12000.00	✓

credit card star ratings



Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Big Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★★★★★ "superior value"								
American Express NZ	Blue Credit Card	19.99	25	35.00	N/A	1500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	Visa Platinum	15.95	25	175.00	60000	10000	250000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	Ltd Edit VISA Platinum	12.15	25	175.00	60000	25000	500000.00	✓
Westpac NZ	Super 14's Rugby Visa Cd	20.44	25	28.00	N/A	500	100000.00	✓
Westpac NZ	Gold MasterCard	20.49	25	70.00	N/A	5000	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	Visa Gold	20.49	25	70.00	N/A	7500	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	Titanium MasterCard	16.95	25	240.00	30000	15000	No max	✓
★★★★ "exceptional value"								
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold Everyday	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	7500	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold Rewards Plus55	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	7500	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	14	80.00	N/A	7500	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold Everyday	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	14	80.00	N/A	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	6000	50000.00	✓
National Bank of NZ	VISA Gold Thoroughbred	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	7500	No max	✓
National Bank of NZ	MCD Gold Thoroughbred	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	7500	No max	✓
Wizard Home Loans	Wizard NZ Fast Card-AME	19.49	25	35.00	5000	1000	12000.00	✓
★★★ "strong value"								
American Express NZ	Platinum MemberRews Car	16.99	25	325.00	N/A	5000	100000.00	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	Qantas ANZ Visa Gold	19.95	14	105.00	N/A	7500	No max	✓
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Classic Low Int	10.95	25	60.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
National Bank of NZ	Freestyle MasterCard	15.95	0	0.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
National Bank of NZ	VISA Gold	19.95	25	75.00	N/A	7500	No max	✗
★★ "average value"								
American Express NZ	Gold Credit Card	19.49	25	90.00	N/A	5000	50000.00	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	Visa Gold	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	7500	No max	✗
ANZ Bank NZ	MasterCard Gold	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	7500	No max	✗
ASB Bank NZ	Visa Gold	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	5000	No max	✓
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard Gold	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	5000	No max	✓
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard Low Int Plan	11.95	25	60.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Gold	18.75	25	50.00	N/A	7500	No max	✗

credit card star ratings



Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Big Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★★ "average value"								
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold GlobalPlus	19.95	14	105.00	N/A	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Gold Fee Saver	19.95	25	80.00	20000	6000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold Rewards Plus5	19.95	25	95.00	N/A	4000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	14	80.00	N/A	4000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold Fee Saver	19.95	25	80.00	20000	7500	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold Everyday	19.95	25	80.00	N/A	4000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	Lite VISA Card	12.65	25	60.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✗
BNZ NZ	VISA Gold GlobalPlus	19.95	14	105.00	N/A	7500	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
National Bank of NZ	MCD Thoroughbred	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
National Bank of NZ	VISA Thoroughbred	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	Low Interest MasterCard	12.65	25	65.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
Westpac NZ	MasterCard	20.49	25	29.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
Westpac NZ	Visa	20.49	25	29.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
★ "satisfactory value"								
American Express NZ	AA Credit Card	19.49	25	35.00	N/A	1000	No max	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	Qantas ANZ Visa	19.95	14	65.00	N/A	500	No max	✓
ANZ Bank NZ	Low Rate Mastercard	12.90	25	58.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ANZ Bank NZ	Visa	19.95	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ANZ Bank NZ	MasterCard	19.95	25	25.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
ASB Bank NZ	Visa	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	0	No max	✓
ASB Bank NZ	MasterCard	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	0	No max	✓
Bankdirect NZ	Visa Classic Standard	18.95	25	20.00	N/A	1000	No max	✗

credit card star ratings



Section 1: Profile Summary Report

Big Spender

Company	Product	Published Rate (%)	Free Days	Annual Fee (\$)		Credit Limit (\$)		Rewards Program Available
				Annualised Fee	Spend to Waive	Min	Max	
★ "satisfactory value"								
BNZ NZ	AMEX Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	All Blacks MasterCard	19.95	25	35.00	N/A	500	20000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold GlobalPlus	19.95	14	105.00	N/A	4000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Gold Fee Saver	19.95	25	80.00	20000	4000	50000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Classic Everyday	19.95	25	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Rewards Plus	19.95	14	24.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	45.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	55.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	AMEX Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	14	55.00	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	MCD Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Rewards Plus 55	19.95	25	39.90	N/A	500	12000.00	✓
BNZ NZ	VISA Fee Saver	19.95	25	24.00	10000	500	12000.00	✓
Kiwibank NZ	LowInterest MasterCard	12.90	25	50.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
National Bank of NZ	VISA Classic	19.95	25	20.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
TSB Bank NZ	Visa Card	17.25	25	18.00	N/A	500	No max	✗
TSB Bank NZ	American Express Gold Cd	19.49	25	90.00	N/A	5000	50000.00	✓

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		

American Express NZ

<http://www.americanexpress.co.nz>

64 9367 4370

AA Credit Card	19.49	8.99%	6 mths	19.49%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(16.75)	SATISFACTORY	(23.90)	40.65			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(26.33)	SATISFACTORY	(21.84)	48.17			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	STRONG	(42.91)	LOW RANKING	(16.03)	58.94			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	STRONG	(37.86)	LOW RANKING	(21.49)	59.35			

Blue Credit Card	19.99	9.99%	6 mths	19.99%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(16.37)	STRONG	(36.54)	52.92			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(25.78)	STRONG	(31.62)	57.40			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING	(36.98)	LOW RANKING	(21.76)	58.73			

Gold Credit Card	19.49	9.49%	6 mths	19.49%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	LOW RANKING	(14.65)	STRONG	(28.46)	43.12			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING	(21.09)	STRONG	(25.45)	46.54			

Platinum MemberRews Card	16.99	7.99%	Life	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★	LOW RANKING	(11.80)	STRONG	(34.78)	46.58			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING	(15.50)	STRONG	(30.21)	45.71			

ANZ Bank NZ

<http://www.anz.co.nz>

08-0036-8524

Low Rate Mastercard	12.90	6.90%	6 mths	12.90%	2.00%	or \$5	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	STRONG	(22.25)	LOW RANKING	(16.69)	38.94			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	STRONG	(32.11)	LOW RANKING	(16.61)	48.72			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★★★★	STRONG	(60.73)	LOW RANKING	(18.27)	79.00			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★★★★	STRONG	(52.40)	LOW RANKING	(22.75)	75.15			

MasterCard	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	2.00%	or \$5	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(16.88)	LOW RANKING	(17.76)	34.64			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(42.52)	SATISFACTORY	(19.44)	61.96			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(37.72)	SATISFACTORY	(24.53)	62.25			

MasterCard Gold	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	2.00%	or \$5	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY	(14.69)	STRONG	(29.07)	43.75			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(21.44)	STRONG	(26.88)	48.31			

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		
ANZ Bank NZ								
http://www.anz.co.nz							08-0036-8524	
Qantas ANZ Visa	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	2.00%	or \$5	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (15.19)		SATISFACTORY(23.00)		38.20			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING (40.42)		LOW RANKING (19.01)		59.43			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING (35.21)		SATISFACTORY(24.72)		59.93			
Qantas ANZ Visa Gold	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	2.00%	or \$5	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	LOW RANKING (13.95)		STRONG (32.83)		46.78			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING (19.83)		STRONG (29.50)		49.33			
Visa	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	2.00%	or \$5	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (16.88)		LOW RANKING (17.48)		34.35			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (42.52)		LOW RANKING (19.13)		61.65			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (37.72)		SATISFACTORY(24.22)		61.95			
Visa Gold	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	2.00%	or \$5	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY (14.69)		SATISFACTORY(27.19)		41.88			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (21.44)		SATISFACTORY(25.01)		46.44			
ASB Bank NZ								
http://www.asbbank.co.nz/default.asp							08-0080-3804	
MasterCard	19.95	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	STRONG (16.93)		SATISFACTORY(23.43)		40.35			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	STRONG (27.39)		SATISFACTORY(22.19)		49.57			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (42.57)		SATISFACTORY(19.47)		62.05			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	STRONG (37.79)		LOW RANKING (23.54)		61.33			
MasterCard Gold	19.95	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY (14.69)		SATISFACTORY(27.31)		42.00			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (21.44)		STRONG (25.24)		46.67			
MasterCard Low Int Plan	11.95	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	SUPERIOR (23.52)		LOW RANKING (17.79)		41.31			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★	SUPERIOR (33.57)		LOW RANKING (17.70)		51.27			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★	SUPERIOR (64.79)		SATISFACTORY(19.47)		84.26			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★	SUPERIOR (55.70)		LOW RANKING (23.54)		79.24			

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		

ASB Bank NZ

<http://www.asbbank.co.nz/default.asp>

08-0080-3804

19.95	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.00%	or	\$10	✗	✗
COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE				
Visa								
<i>Big Spender</i>	★	STRONG	(16.93)	SATISFACTORY(23.65)		40.58		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(27.39)	SATISFACTORY(22.41)		49.80		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★	SATISFACTORY	(42.57)	SATISFACTORY(19.72)		62.29		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★	STRONG	(37.79)	SATISFACTORY(24.20)		61.99		
Visa Gold							✓	✗
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY	(14.69)	STRONG	(27.88)	42.56		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★	SATISFACTORY	(21.44)	STRONG	(25.80)	47.23		

Bankdirect NZ

<http://www.bankdirect.co.nz>

08-0022-5566

10.95	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.00%	or	\$10	✗	✗
COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE				
Visa Classic Low Int								
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★	SUPERIOR	(25.21)	LOW RANKING (20.05)		45.27		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★★	SUPERIOR	(35.70)	LOW RANKING (19.95)		55.65		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★★★★	SUPERIOR	(70.00)	STRONG	(21.95)	91.95		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★★★	SUPERIOR	(60.00)	STRONG	(27.24)	87.24		
Visa Classic Standard								
<i>Big Spender</i>	★	STRONG	(17.98)	LOW RANKING (20.05)		38.03		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★	STRONG	(29.32)	LOW RANKING (19.95)		49.27		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★★	STRONG	(45.00)	STRONG	(21.95)	66.94		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★	STRONG	(40.00)	STRONG	(27.24)	67.24		
Visa Gold								
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY	(16.64)	SATISFACTORY(24.16)		40.80		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★	SATISFACTORY	(25.26)	SATISFACTORY(23.22)		48.48		

BNZ NZ

<http://www.bnz.co.nz>

08-0024-0000

19.95	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.00%	or	\$10	✗	✗
COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE				
All Blacks MasterCard								
<i>Big Spender</i>	★	SATISFACTORY	(16.40)	LOW RANKING (20.62)		37.02		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★	SATISFACTORY	(25.83)	LOW RANKING (19.39)		45.22		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★	SATISFACTORY	(41.96)	LOW RANKING (16.39)		58.36		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★	SATISFACTORY	(37.05)	LOW RANKING (21.29)		58.34		

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		
BNZ NZ								
http://www.bnz.co.nz							08-0024-0000	
AMEX Classic Everyday	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	STRONG (16.93)		LOW RANKING (18.02)		34.95			
AMEX Fee Saver	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	STRONG (31.98)		LOW RANKING (13.07)		45.05			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	STRONG (44.00)		LOW RANKING (13.56)		57.56			
AMEX Gold Everyday	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY (14.69)		STRONG (27.62)		42.31			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (21.44)		SATISFACTORY (24.61)		46.04			
AMEX Gold Fee Saver	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	STRONG (18.27)		LOW RANKING (18.00)		36.27			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	STRONG (31.98)		LOW RANKING (16.91)		48.89			
AMEX Gold GlobalPlus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING (13.95)		SATISFACTORY (22.92)		36.88			
AMEX Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY (14.69)		SATISFACTORY (27.39)		42.08			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (21.44)		SATISFACTORY (24.38)		45.82			
AMEX Gold Rewards Plus55	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	LOW RANKING (14.23)		STRONG (27.62)		41.85			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING (20.42)		SATISFACTORY (24.61)		45.03			
AMEX Rewards Plus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	STRONG (16.93)		LOW RANKING (18.02)		34.95			
AMEX Rewards Plus 55	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (16.18)		LOW RANKING (18.02)		34.21			
AMEX Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY (15.56)		LOW RANKING (18.02)		33.59			

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		
BNZ NZ								
http://www.bnz.co.nz							08-0024-0000	
Lite VISA Card	12.65	5.99%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(22.46)	LOW RANKING (18.74)		41.20		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(32.25)	LOW RANKING (18.64)		50.89		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG	(61.59)	SATISFACTORY(20.51)		82.09		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG	(53.05)	SATISFACTORY(25.80)		78.86		
Ltd Edit VISA Platinum	12.15	4.99%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✓
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★★★	SUPERIOR	(30.00)	SUPERIOR (70.00)		66.79		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(23.63)	SUPERIOR (60.00)		83.63		
MCD Classic Everyday	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(16.93)	SATISFACTORY(24.60)		41.53		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(27.39)	SATISFACTORY(23.35)		50.74		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY	(42.57)	STRONG (20.75)		63.33		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(37.79)	STRONG (26.46)		64.25		
MCD Fee Saver	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i>	★	STRONG	(18.27)	LOW RANKING (19.68)		37.95		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(31.98)	LOW RANKING (19.39)		51.37		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(44.00)	SATISFACTORY(20.51)		64.51		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(37.79)	SATISFACTORY(25.80)		63.60		
MCD Gold Everyday	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(14.69)	STRONG (33.97)		48.66		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★	SATISFACTORY	(21.44)	STRONG (30.93)		52.36		
MCD Gold Fee Saver	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(18.27)	SATISFACTORY(24.58)		42.85		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG	(31.98)	SATISFACTORY(23.45)		55.43		
MCD Gold GlobalPlus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	LOW RANKING	(13.95)	STRONG (29.27)		43.23		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★	LOW RANKING	(19.83)	STRONG (27.19)		47.02		
MCD Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(14.69)	STRONG (33.97)		48.66		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★	SATISFACTORY	(21.44)	STRONG (30.93)		52.36		

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		
BNZ NZ								
http://www.bnz.co.nz							08-0024-0000	
MCD Gold Rewards Plus 55	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	LOW RANKING	(14.23)	STRONG	(33.97)	48.20			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★	LOW RANKING	(20.42)	STRONG	(30.93)	51.35			
MCD Rewards Plus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(16.93)	SATISFACTORY	(24.60)	41.53			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(27.39)	SATISFACTORY	(23.35)	50.74			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY	(42.57)	STRONG	(20.75)	63.33			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(37.79)	STRONG	(26.46)	64.25			
MCD Rewards Plus 55	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(16.18)	SATISFACTORY	(24.60)	40.78			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(25.21)	SATISFACTORY	(23.35)	48.57			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING	(41.70)	STRONG	(20.75)	62.45			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★	LOW RANKING	(36.73)	STRONG	(26.46)	63.19			
MCD Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(15.97)	SATISFACTORY	(24.60)	40.57			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY	(24.61)	SATISFACTORY	(23.35)	47.97			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING	(41.43)	STRONG	(20.75)	62.19			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING	(36.40)	STRONG	(26.46)	62.87			
VISA Classic Everyday	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(16.93)	SATISFACTORY	(24.60)	41.53			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(27.39)	SATISFACTORY	(23.35)	50.74			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY	(42.57)	STRONG	(20.75)	63.33			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(37.79)	STRONG	(26.46)	64.25			
VISA Fee Saver	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	STRONG	(18.27)	LOW RANKING	(19.68)	37.95			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(31.98)	LOW RANKING	(19.39)	51.37			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(44.00)	SATISFACTORY	(20.51)	64.51			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(37.79)	SATISFACTORY	(25.80)	63.60			
VISA Gold Everyday	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(14.69)	STRONG	(33.97)	48.66			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(21.44)	STRONG	(30.93)	52.36			

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		
BNZ NZ								
http://www.bnz.co.nz							08-0024-0000	
VISA Gold Fee Saver	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	STRONG		(18.27)	SATISFACTORY(24.58)		42.85		
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	STRONG		(31.98)	SATISFACTORY(23.45)		55.43		
VISA Gold GlobalPlus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	LOW RANKING		(13.95)	STRONG (29.27)		43.23		
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING		(19.83)	STRONG (27.19)		47.02		
VISA Gold Rewards Plus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY		(14.69)	STRONG (33.97)		48.66		
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY		(21.44)	STRONG (30.93)		52.36		
VISA Gold Rewards Plus55	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	LOW RANKING		(14.23)	STRONG (33.97)		48.20		
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★	LOW RANKING		(20.42)	STRONG (30.93)		51.35		
Visa Platinum	15.95	4.99%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✓
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★★	STRONG		(22.78)	SUPERIOR (68.47)		91.26		
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★★	LOW RANKING		(19.54)	SUPERIOR (58.48)		78.02		
VISA Rewards Plus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	STRONG		(16.93)	SATISFACTORY(24.60)		41.53		
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★	STRONG		(27.39)	SATISFACTORY(23.35)		50.74		
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY		(42.57)	STRONG (20.75)		63.33		
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★	STRONG		(37.79)	STRONG (26.46)		64.25		
VISA Rewards Plus 55	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY		(16.18)	SATISFACTORY(24.60)		40.78		
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY		(25.21)	SATISFACTORY(23.35)		48.57		
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING		(41.70)	STRONG (20.75)		62.45		
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★	LOW RANKING		(36.73)	STRONG (26.46)		63.19		
VISA Standard GlobalPlus	19.95	8.95%	6 mths	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY		(15.56)	SATISFACTORY(24.60)		40.16		
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★	SATISFACTORY		(23.56)	SATISFACTORY(23.35)		46.91		
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING		(40.92)	STRONG (20.75)		61.67		
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	LOW RANKING		(35.79)	STRONG (26.46)		62.26		

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		
Kiwibank NZ								
http://www.kiwibank.co.nz/							08-0011-3355	
LowInterest MasterCard	12.90	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★	STRONG	(22.85)	LOW RANKING (16.24)		39.09		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★	SUPERIOR	(33.46)	LOW RANKING (16.16)		49.62		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG	(61.60)	LOW RANKING (17.77)		79.38		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★★	STRONG	(53.40)	LOW RANKING (21.43)		74.84		
National Bank of NZ								
http://www.nationalbank.co.nz							08-0018-1818	
Freestyle MasterCard	15.95	8.75%	6 mths	15.95%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✓
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★	SUPERIOR	(22.85)	LOW RANKING (21.64)		44.49		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★★★	SUPERIOR	(40.00)	SATISFACTORY(21.12)		61.12		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG	(55.03)	STRONG (21.70)		76.74		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG	(49.50)	STRONG (26.77)		76.26		
MCD Gold Thoroughbred	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★★	LOW RANKING	(14.23)	STRONG (36.39)		50.63		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★★	LOW RANKING	(20.42)	STRONG (33.05)		53.47		
MCD Thoroughbred	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY	(16.40)	SATISFACTORY(26.12)		42.52		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY	(25.83)	SATISFACTORY(24.87)		50.69		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY	(41.96)	STRONG (22.42)		64.38		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★	SATISFACTORY	(37.05)	STRONG (28.12)		65.17		
VISA Classic	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★	STRONG	(17.13)	LOW RANKING (19.92)		37.05		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★	STRONG	(28.02)	LOW RANKING (19.82)		47.84		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★	STRONG	(42.80)	STRONG (21.80)		64.61		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★	STRONG	(38.07)	STRONG (26.48)		64.55		
VISA Gold	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★	SATISFACTORY	(14.85)	STRONG (29.97)		44.82		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★	SATISFACTORY	(21.81)	STRONG (27.78)		49.59		
VISA Gold Thoroughbred	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★★	LOW RANKING	(14.23)	STRONG (36.39)		50.63		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★★	LOW RANKING	(20.42)	STRONG (33.05)		53.47		

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		
National Bank of NZ								
http://www.nationalbank.co.nz							08-0018-1818	
VISA Thoroughbred	19.95	8.75%	6 mths	19.95%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY (16.40)		SATISFACTORY (26.12)		42.52		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY (25.83)		SATISFACTORY (24.87)		50.69		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY (41.96)		STRONG (22.42)		64.38		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★	SATISFACTORY (37.05)		STRONG (28.12)		65.17		
TSB Bank NZ								
http://www.tsb.co.nz							05-0856-2634	
American Express Gold Cd	19.49	8.99%	6 mths	19.49%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★	LOW RANKING (14.65)		LOW RANKING (21.99)		36.65		
Visa Card								
	17.25	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★	STRONG (19.76)		LOW RANKING (18.33)		38.09		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★	STRONG (32.25)		LOW RANKING (18.24)		50.49		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★★★	STRONG (49.45)		SATISFACTORY (20.06)		69.51		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG (43.96)		SATISFACTORY (24.33)		68.30		
Westpac NZ								
http://www.westpac.co.nz/							08-0040-0600	
Gold MasterCard	20.49	8.75%	Life	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✓
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★★★★	SATISFACTORY (14.74)		STRONG (42.77)		57.51		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★★★	SATISFACTORY (21.86)		STRONG (38.17)		60.02		
Low Interest MasterCard								
	12.65	8.75%	Life	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	STRONG (22.11)		LOW RANKING (21.15)		43.26		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★	STRONG (31.50)		LOW RANKING (21.04)		52.54		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG (61.05)		STRONG (23.15)		84.19		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★★★	STRONG (52.44)		STRONG (30.08)		82.52		
MasterCard								
	20.49	8.75%	Life	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING			FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE		
<i>Big Spender</i>	★★	SATISFACTORY (16.34)		STRONG (27.69)		44.02		
<i>Everyday Spender</i>	★★★	SATISFACTORY (26.13)		STRONG (26.43)		52.56		
<i>Habitual Spender</i>	★★★★	LOW RANKING (41.35)		STRONG (24.13)		65.48		
<i>Impulse Spender</i>	★★★★★	LOW RANKING (36.62)		SUPERIOR (31.07)		67.69		

Section 2: Summary by Company

Company Summary Report

PRODUCT	Published Rate (%)	Balance Transfer			Minimum Repayment Criteria		Free Travel Insurance	Extended Warranty Available
		Intro Rate	Intro Period	Revert Rate	%	or \$		

Westpac NZ

<http://www.westpac.co.nz/> 08-0040-0600

Super 14's Rugby Visa Cd	20.44	8.75%	Life	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(16.42)	STRONG	(36.99)	53.41			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(26.32)	STRONG	(33.07)	59.39			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★★★★	LOW RANKING	(41.50)	SUPERIOR	(30.00)	71.50			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★★★★	LOW RANKING	(36.77)	SUPERIOR	(40.00)	76.77			

The Warehouse MasterCard	18.99	5.99%	6 mths	18.99%	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ✧	STRONG	(28.41)	SATISFACTORY	(25.01)	53.42			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ✧	STRONG	(44.59)	STRONG	(22.58)	67.17			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ✧	STRONG	(39.54)	STRONG	(27.26)	66.79			

Titanium MasterCard	16.95	8.75%	Life	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✓
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	STRONG	(21.50)	SUPERIOR	(59.89)	81.39			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	LOW RANKING	(17.03)	SUPERIOR	(51.92)	68.96			

Visa	20.49	8.75%	Life	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✗	✗
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★	SATISFACTORY	(16.34)	STRONG	(27.90)	44.23			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(26.13)	STRONG	(26.64)	52.77			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★★★★	LOW RANKING	(41.35)	SUPERIOR	(24.37)	65.72			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★★★★★	LOW RANKING	(36.62)	STRONG	(30.89)	67.51			

Visa Gold	20.49	8.75%	Life	N/A	3.00%	or \$10	✓	✓
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(14.74)	SUPERIOR	(44.56)	59.31			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	SATISFACTORY	(21.86)	SUPERIOR	(39.95)	61.80			

Wizard Home Loans NZ

<http://www.wizard.co.nz> 08-0049-4927

Wizard NZ Fast Card-AMEX	19.49	9.99%	Life	19.49%	5.00%	or \$10	✗	✓
	COST RATING		FEATURES RATING		TOTAL SCORE			
<i>Big Spender</i> ★★★★★	STRONG	(18.70)	STRONG	(30.77)	49.47			
<i>Everyday Spender</i> ★★★★★	STRONG	(32.73)	STRONG	(27.74)	60.48			
<i>Habitual Spender</i> ★★	STRONG	(45.04)	LOW RANKING	(18.41)	63.45			
<i>Impulse Spender</i> ★	STRONG	(37.86)	SATISFACTORY	(24.89)	62.75			



CANNEX credit card star ratings - methodology

What are the CANNEX credit card star ratings?

CANNEX credit card star ratings are a sophisticated rating methodology, unique to CANNEX, which compare the dominant credit card products in New Zealand and present the results in a simple, user-friendly format.

CANNEX rating methodology is transparent and extensive. The methodology compares all types of personal unsecured credit cards in Australia and accounts for an array of characteristics such as;

- Free Days
- No Free Days
- Standard Features
- Premium Features
- Reward/Loyalty Programs
- No Frills

The results are reflected in a consumer-friendly 5-star concept. The star ratings from the **CANNEX credit card star ratings** are described as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| ★★★★★ Superior Product | ★★ Average Product |
| ★★★★ Exceptional Product | ★ Satisfactory Product |
| ★★★ Strong Product | ☆ Rising Star |

Only the top 75% of the credit cards examined actually receive a star rating between 1 and 5. Rising Stars are those products that would be rated 3-star or higher but have not been in the market for over 6 months. Rising Star products will be formally rated in the next ratings period once more historical data is available.

What are the Profiles used by CANNEX credit card star ratings?

CANNEX appreciates that credit card users have different spending habits and therefore value different aspects of their credit card. In recognition of these differences, the **CANNEX credit card star ratings** methodology has been modified to reflect a range of spending styles and credit card usage.

CANNEX has adopted four different credit card user profiles in an attempt to cover the majority of card spending and payment patterns. The star ratings methodology differs for each profile in terms of the relative importance placed on the fees and features of the cards assessed. For example the methodology recognises that interest rates will be more important to someone who rarely pays off their card balance each month than they will be for someone who always pays the balance owing on their card.

How does it work? How are the 'stars' calculated?

Each credit card reviewed for the **CANNEX credit card star ratings** is awarded points for its comparative Costs and for the array of positive Features attached to the card. These features include rewards programs, premium card facilities, repayment capabilities and conditions attached to interest charging.

To arrive at the total score CANNEX applies a weight (w) against the Cost score (C) and the Features score (F). This weight will vary for each profile of credit card usage. The weight will reflect the relative importance of either costs or features in determining the best card for the type of credit card usage and payment.

$$w_1 \text{ COST SCORE (C) } + w_2 \text{ FEATURES SCORE (F) } = \text{ TOTAL SCORE (T) }$$



Costs (C)

CANNEX compares both current and historical credit card pricing data to calculate the COST (C) component of each product's overall score. Current data is used to calculate the annual cost to the cardholder for using each card. The cost of each card varies depending on the characteristics of the spending profile. Below are some of the spending and revolving details used in the calculation of the cost of each credit card.

- 1) **Current Data** –includes a scenario for each of the four credit card spending profiles
 - Habitual Spender - spends \$12,000 per year while revolving \$2,500
 - Everyday Spender - spends \$24,000 per year while revolving \$500
 - Impulse Spender - spends \$3,600 per year while revolving \$1,800
 - Big Spender - spends \$60,000 per year while revolving \$1,000
- 2) **Historical Performance of Interest Rate** – takes into account the product history. All current products assessed are grandfathered and subsequent calculations for each half-year will include an additional 6 months of historical rates until 12 months have passed.

Features (F)

Each card Feature (F) is allocated points. Points are awarded for positive credit card traits such as no fees or greater flexibility. The total features score for each category of information (eg repayment capabilities) is ranked and weighted with each category contributing to the overall Features Score (F). As Features are relatively static, they are not measured over time.

Weightings

The Costs and Features are weighted differently for each spending profile. This is done in recognition of the relative importance of the different product components to each profile.

The methodology for each profile is subtly adjusted to account for the differences between them. The process considers each profile separately and assigns weights representative of that profile (see table below). For the Habitual spender for example, the rates and fees associated with a card account for 70% of that card's total score and the features account for the remaining 30%. The cards targeting this user demographic have fewer features, less flexibility and compete mainly on pricing. The cards targeting the Big Spender on the other hand (eg. Gold, Platinum or rewards cards) typically offer more features. The Big spender profile has therefore been adjusted so that features account for 70% of the total score, while rates and fees account for 30%.

The Costs (C) plus Features (F) point scores are indexed and totalled to provide the Total Index Points. Together they form the basis of the CANNEX credit card star ratings.

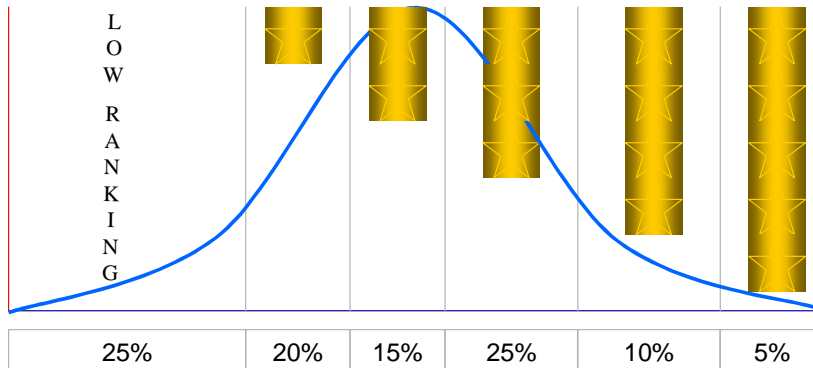
CANNEX credit card star ratings™ WEIGHTINGS				
	COST (C)	FEATURES (F)	FREE DAYS / MINIMUM REPAYMENT	TOTAL (C+F)
Habitual Spender	70%	25%	5%	100%
Everyday Spender	35%	60%	5%	100%
Impulse Spender	60%	35%	5%	100%
Big Spender	25%	70%	5%	100%

* Cost calculations consider current and historical interest rates as well as ongoing fees associated with the cards
 ** Features calculations consider features/parameters, flexibility, terms and conditions
 *** Free Days contributed 5% of the overall score for the Everyday and Big Spender while Minimum repayments contributed 5% of the overall score for the Habitual and Impulse Spender.

FEATURES WEIGHTS USED IN STAR RATINGS SCORING				
FEATURES CATEGORY	HABITUAL SPENDER	EVERYDAY SPENDER	IMPULSE SPENDER	BIG SPENDER
ADDTNL FEES & CHARGES	3.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
GENERAL INFORMATION	2.00%	2.00%	8.00%	2.00%
LATE PYMT INT CHARGING	3%	7%	3%	7%
MERCHANT ACCEPTABILITY	5%	5%	5%	5%
ONLINE TRANSACTIONS	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
PREMIUM CARD FACILITIES	3%	10%	5%	20%
REWARDS PROG ACCUMULATION	3.00%	5%	3.00%	5%
REPAYMENT CAPABILITIES	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
REWARDS PROGRAM INFO	5%	20.00%	5%	20%
STATES AVAILABLE	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
TOTAL FEATURES WEIGHT	30.00%	60.00%	40.00%	70.00%

How are the stars awarded?

The total score received for each profile ranks the products. The stars are then awarded based on the distribution of the scores according to the following guidelines. As you can see, only the cards that obtain a score in the top 5% of the of the score distribution receive a 5 star rating and only the top 75% of the score range receive a star rating.



Is the analysis independent?

CANNEX is independently owned and operated. We maintain data and prepare research on financial products. This independence differentiates CANNEX from others.



How many products and financial institutions are analysed?

In order to calculate the ratings, CANNEX analyses 73 Credit Card products from over 10 financial institutions in Australia. In addition, over 100 parts of a product are analysed which includes product parameters, flexibility and operating terms and conditions.

How often are CANNEX *credit card star ratings* re-rated?

Products are officially re-rated every six months. The results are published in a variety of mediums (newspapers, magazines, television, websites etc).

Does CANNEX rate other product areas?

YES. CANNEX also rates rewards, personal loans, mortgages, deposit accounts, margin lending and business banking products. These star ratings use similar methodologies to the *credit card star ratings*. This guarantees the quality and transparency of these other star ratings. The use of similar star ratings logos also builds consumer recognition of quality products across product categories. Please access the CANNEX website at (<http://www.cannex.com.au/starrate.html>) if you would like to view the latest reports of interest.

Does CANNEX rate other product areas?

YES. CANNEX also rates home loans and deposit accounts. These star ratings use similar methodologies to the *credit card star ratings*. This guarantees the quality and transparency of these other *star ratings*. The use of similar *star ratings* logos also builds consumer recognition of quality products across all product categories. Please access the CANNEX website at www.cannex.co.nz to download the latest report of interest.

