

# Numerics Initiative: Merchant Readiness Checklist

This document is intended to provide a high level checklist of the potential impact areas service providers will need to review to determine and complete readiness for the 8-digit BIN and processing numerics changes in advance of April 2022. This document is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but rather a guide for service providers when determining areas of impact.

**Merchant**  
**Acquirer**  
**Date**

**Task  
Owner**

**Date  
Projected**

**Date  
Completed**

**Comments**

## Not yet started

### Key initiative Resources Related

Merchant facing deck

Discovery Interview, Action Steps, etc.

[Numerics Initiative Page on Visa.com](#)

### Training

Webinars:

– Merchant Webinar

– Service Provider Webinar (Recorded Version)

## Actively Engaged

### Planning and Resources

Executive management aware

### Assessment

Assess Point-of-Sale & merchant's processing platform readiness for 8-digit BINs

Assess downstream and proprietary system readiness

Confirm routing is based on Visa Tables (or Visa routing)

Review hardcoding or any system logic based on BIN

Identify project milestones

Create a project plan including risk mitigation

	Task Owner	Date Projected	Date Completed	Comments
<b>Analysis Underway</b>				
Establish a cross-functional project team				
<b>Impacted Functional Areas (Internal &amp; Third Parties)</b>				
Review <a href="#">Impacted Functional Areas</a> chart to assess and identify potential impacts				
Identify & inventory all third party service providers):				
– Terminal providers				
– Processors				
– POS application providers				
– Software vendors				
– Aggregators				
– eCommerce shopping card and wallet developers				
– Payment gateways				
– Fraud Risk management providers				
– Dispute resolutions providers				
– Value-added resellers (VARs)				
Consult with PCI Qualified Security Assessor if a merchant would like to expose the full eight-digit BIN as well as the last four digits				
Communicate the changes to acquirers				
Communicate the changes to service providers				
<b>Progressing Implementation</b>				
Executive management endorsed				
Project resourcing approved				
Target readiness date				

	Task Owner	Date Projected	Date Completed	Comments
<b>Progressing Implementation</b> (cont'd)				
<b>Project Progress</b> (input projected dates)				
Make modifications if you are using 6-digit BINs to:				
				– Identify Prepaid Cards
				– Fraud and/or Chargeback analytics
				– Fraud or Chargeback prevention
				– Issuer Identification
				– Routing
				– Unique BIN Identification; e.g. Fleet Cards, GSA Cards, etc.
				– Optimize Approval Rates/Authorization Analysis
				– Loyalty Solutions
				– Cash Back Qualification
				– Installment Payment Qualification
				– Limited Acceptance (Credit, Debit)
				– Surcharging
				– Strong Customer Authentication (PSD2 related products)
				– Backoffice processors; e.g. reconciliation
<b>Testing</b> (Highly recommended)				
				Work with acquirers to understand testing requirements
				Internal test plans established
				Testing plans with acquirers and third parties established
				Conduct testing with acquirers

Task Owner	Date Projected	Date Completed	Comments
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## Confirmed Ready

**Readiness Confirmed** (Merchant project complete)

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Internal test plans completed

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Testing plans with acquirers completed

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Testing plan with third parties completed

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Project is completed and readiness has been communicated to acquirers, Visa and to third parties

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Ready to handle 8-digit BINs

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# Impacted functional areas

The following are functional areas that may be impacted. Internal processes should be reviewed to determine if these apply, or to identify additional areas specific to your organization.

## General considerations

- Reporting—including client generated internal reporting
- Billing—including invoice formats
- Call center systems
- Value-added networks (VANs)
- Fraud/risk management systems and encryption services
- Dispute resolution systems

## Key areas for consideration on the expansion of BINs, in particular if you:

- Manage your own POS environment
- Share BIN information with any third parties
- Use proprietary BIN tables in transaction processing or supplied via third parties
- Have any system logic or POS device that uses the first 6-digits of the PAN

## Issuer-specific considerations

- Statementing processes
- PAN assignment logic
- Product-specific reporting/processes
- Affiliated entities, including:
  - Processors
  - Software vendors
  - Card manufacturers
  - Card personalization bureaus
  - Fraud/risk management providers
  - Dispute resolution providers
  - Loyalty/rewards providers
  - Program managers (e.g. Prepaid)
  - Co-brand partners
  - Cardholder benefits
- Visa Quarterly Operating Certificate Reporting Loyalty Programs

## And if you are using BINs to:

- Identify Prepaid Cards
- Fraud and/or chargeback analytics
- Fraud or chargeback prevention
- Issuer identification
- Routing
- Unique BIN identification; e.g., Fleet Cards, GSA Cards, Others
- Optimize approval rates/authorization analysis

## Acquirer/Merchant-specific considerations

- Any terminal-level logic that may be based on 6-digit issuer BIN
- Interchange reconciliation logic
- Merchant loyalty programs
- Transaction routing logic
- Affiliated entities, including:
  - Processors
  - Software vendors
  - Payment gateways
  - POS application providers
  - eCommerce shopping cart and wallet developers
  - Terminal providers
  - Fraud/risk management providers
  - Aggregators
  - Value-added resellers (VARs)

- Loyalty solutions
- Cash back qualification
- Installment payment qualification
- Limited acceptance (Credit, Debit)
- Surcharging
- Strong customer authentication (PSD2 related projects)
- Back office processor: i.e. reconciliation

# Merchant Readiness by Stage

Key milestones to meet mandate by April 2022

## Readiness stage

## How to determine?

Not Yet Started

– Has merchant answered 'no' to any questions for Actively Engaged phase?

Actively Engaged

- Is merchant's executive management aware?
- Has merchant begun assessing impacts for 8-digit BINs?
- Has merchant begun assessing downstream and proprietary system readiness?

Analysis Underway

- Has merchant begun identifying and inventorying impacts?
- Has a cross-functional team been established?
- Have project milestones been identified?

Progressing Implementation

- Has merchant's executive management endorsed the effort?
- Have project budget and other resourcing requirements been approved?
- Has a project plan been created and is it progressing?
- Has a targeted launch date been set?
- Is merchant actively engaged with their acquirers and third parties?

Confirmed Ready

- Has the merchant's plan been completed, including any downstream changes and testing?
- Are merchant's third parties ready to support?
- Has merchant communicated readiness to their acquirers?
- Is a risk mitigation plan in place?