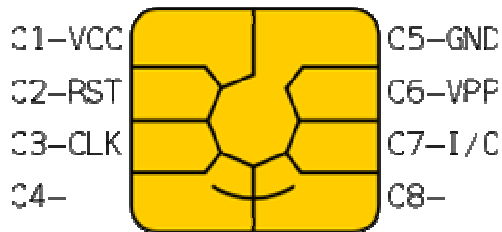


Smart Card

A smart card, also called chip card or integrated circuit card is a type of pocket-sized card with embedded integrated circuits which can process data. This card can receive input which is processed by way of the ICC applications and delivered as an output. A smart card is a plastic card embedded with a computer chip that stores and transacts data between users. Smart card-enhanced systems are in use today in several key applications such as healthcare, banking, entertainment and transportation. The card data is transacted via a reader connected to a computing system



Smart cards improve the convenience and security of any transaction. The card provides tamper-proof storage of user and account identity, vital components of system security for the exchange of data throughout virtually any type of network. The Smart cards protect against a full range of security threats.

A smart card resembles a credit card in size and shape, but inside it is completely different. The inside of a smart card usually contains an **embedded microprocessor**. The microprocessor is under a gold contact pad on one side of the card. Smart cards may have up to 8 kilobytes of RAM, 346 kilobytes of ROM, 256 kilobytes of programmable ROM, and a 16-bit microprocessor. The smart card uses a serial interface and receives its power from external sources like a card reader