

How to make a Drivers License

I pondered the topic of producing a drivers license for about 5 minutes before beginning to educate others on what it takes to produce a drivers license. As daunting as some companies make it seem, in truth the credit card agencies produce credit cards every day. So what does it actually take to produce one?

First, one needs an enrollment process. Let's use time proven systems, this will allow us time to explain the daunting assignment of producing a physical license. I'm going to latch onto a mid-western state's process that is already in place. In Iowa, one proceeds to one of many Department of Motor Vehicle licensing stations. Within such a place we find trained professionals who guide one through the testing, evaluation, and approval processes. Once approved, the individual proceeds to a photo station where a digital facial photograph is gathered of the soon to be licensee.

That's how the enrollment process works. During enrollment personal information and a photograph are gathered. This then needs to be recorded somewhere in the state's records; in this case a database. And it needs to be transferred to an ID card; in this case a plastic card with a magnetic strip.

Second, one needs a blank plastic ID card with a magnetic strip. One that is capable of being imprinted upon and digital data stored upon the magnetic media portion. Of course anyone can order such kits over the internet; usable for entry passes, company ID purposes, door entry card swipe stations, and even cruise line credit card uses. But, lest we forget this one is for drivers licenses, so we shall have the maker send us blanks with some watermark that shows a logo and the words "Drivers License" or "Real ID" preprinted upon it.

Third, we'll ask the credit card companies how they make their credit cards tamper proof. And why not inquire of the Federal Reserve about what they might share with us about making paper money tamper proof. Between the two, we'll learn much about the remaining features that are needed.

And finally, we take all the information and photograph that was gathered in the first process. We imprint that onto the blank plastic ID card. And we hand it to the new or renewed driver.