Validity period and lifespan: Simply explained with use cases

For your **AirPlus Virtual Cards in the single-use version**

- the **lifespan of 12 months**: describes the entire period of time between card generation and the latest possible validity/payment date (card expiry)
- a **validity period of max. 6 months**: refers to the time span within which your card can be **used to make payments**; is always defined within the 12-month lifespan

Your advantages

Defining the validity period is totally up to you as our customer. You define this period individually based on your internal company needs. It could last for days or months but cannot exceed a max. period of 6 months. During this time, the card can be used for payments. Independent from the validity period, pre-authorization is possible within 72 hours after card generation.
Remember: The shorter you define the validity period, the more secure the card will be.

Use Case I

Your employee John will stay in a hotel from Dec 1 (check-in) until Dec 3 (check-out). Your travel agency creates a virtual card with the validity period: Nov 28 until Dec 6. The hotel can immediately preauthorize the card when they receive the booking and card details (preauthorization is possible within 72 hours of card generation). The card can then otherwise be charged by the hotel between Nov 28 and Dec 6.

	Card generation	Nov 26, 2021
	Lifespan *Period begins the day of card generation and lasts 12 months*.	Nov 2021 to Nov 2022
	Validity period *Max. 6 months – during this time, you can use the card for payment. You can determine this 6-month period individually within the 12-month lifespan. The validity period might last only a few days or over many months but no more than 6 months.*	Nov 28, 2021 to Dec 6, 2021

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Use Case II (Part I – Initial Booking)

Anne has a training from Sep 13-24, 2021. To get the best hotel rate, she has to book within the next 3 days. She asks her travel management to generate a virtual card for her. The hotel payment will not be until September, but the card has to be generated immediately (Apr 27, 2021) for payment guarantee. The room will be paid after check-out.

	Card generation	Apr 27, 2021
	Lifespan *Period begins the day of card generation and **lasts 12 months**.*	Apr 2021 to Apr 2022
	Validity period *Max. 6 months – during this time, you can use the card for payment. You can determine this 6-month period **individually** within the 12-month lifespan.*	Sep 12-30, 2021

Use Case II (Part II – Rebooking)

Let's assume that due to too few particitpants Anne's training is postponed to Jan 10-21, 2022. What does this mean for the virtual card you generated?

There is no need to generate a new virtual card. You just have to log in to the AirPlus Portal and adjust the validity period. The new validity period could be Jan 8-31, 2022. The card will not expire until April 2022, at which point it will no longer be able to be used for payment.

	Card generation (no change)	Apr 27, 2021
	Lifespan (no change) *Period begins the day of card generation and **lasts 12 months**.*	Apr 2021 to Apr 2022
	Validity period (adapted) *Max. 6 months – during this time, you can use the card for payment. You can determine this 6-month period **individually** within the 12-month lifespan.*	Jan 8-31, 2022

Difference between AirPlus Virtual Cards in the single-use and multi-use versions

The lifespan of 12 months is the same for all AirPlus Virtual Cards.

AirPlus Virtual Cards in the single-use version

The lifespan is 12 months from card generation. The validity period during which you can use the card for payment, however, is a maximum of 6 months within the 12-month window of time. You can determine this 6-month period individually.

AirPlus Virtual Cards in the multi-use version

No distinction is made here between lifespan and validity period. The 12-month lifespan is also the validity period. Virtual cards in the multi-use version, used for recurring payments, can be used for all 12 months after generation. Their use can be restricted by other parameters you define, such as card limit.

For more information on AirPlus' products and services and support with AirPlus Virtual Cards, please contact your local AirPlus Service Team.