

Proof Guide

How to draw a proof sheet that ProofScene turns into an interactive 3D product.



How a proof sheet works

A ProofScene proof is an ordinary Illustrator PDF with four conventions. Draw the product once, say what is on each side, and upload it. Everything else is read from the sheet.

- 1 The red line is your product.** Its outer red line is the cut edge, at 1:1 in millimeters. Red lines inside it are holes.
- 2 Eight lines a side.** F1 to F8 for the front, B1 to B8 for the back. Each line is a swatch and a label.
- 3 Draw in the line's color.** Whatever is drawn in a line's swatch color on that side gets that effect.
- 4 The specification.** Material, thickness, edge color and edge foil, as below.

Material	Thickness
PVC	0.76 mm
Edge color	Metallic edge foil
☒ White	☒ No

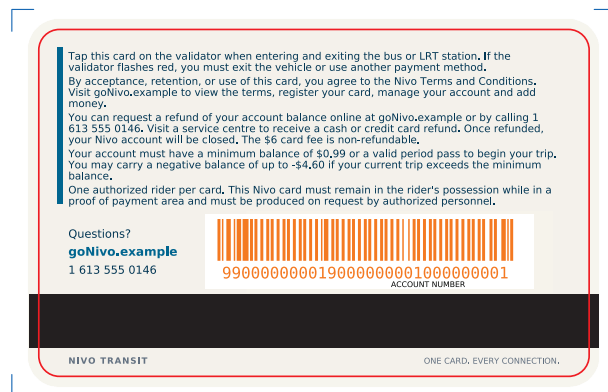
Front



F1	☒	Full color print (CMYK)
F2	☒	High gloss lamination
F3	☒	Contactless chip (NFC)
F4	☒	Thermal print
F5	☐	
F6	☐	
F7	☐	
F8	☐	

Back

Shown turned over like a page



B1	☒	Full color print (CMYK)
B2	☒	High gloss lamination
B3	☒	Magnetic stripe (HiCo)
B4	☒	Thermal print
B5	☐	
B6	☐	
B7	☐	
B8	☐	

The Nivo Transit Card demo sheet at 85%, its drawing side. Every sheet in the Proof Kit works the same way: open one, change it, upload it.

Cut, fold and perforate

Lines with no fill in these four colors shape the product. Use the swatches from the color key or copy a sample from this page. Everything else you draw is artwork.



PS Cut

Red, 0.75 pt, solid. The outline and every hole.



PS Perforation

Blue, 1 pt, round dots. Tear and snap-off lines.



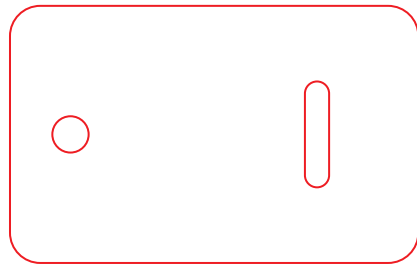
PS Fold

Green, 0.75 pt, dashed. Folds in paper and board.

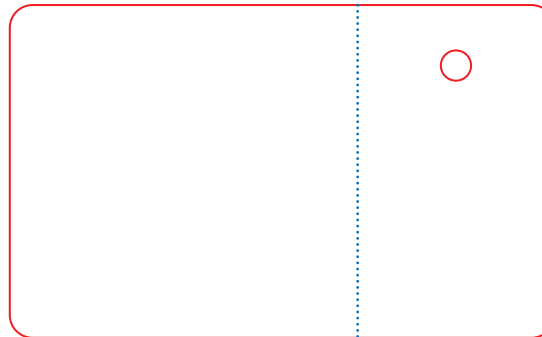


PS Antenna

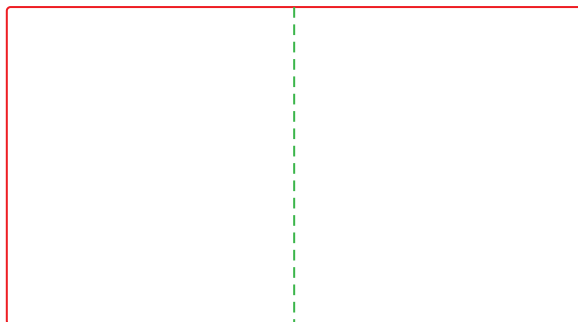
Magenta, 0.75 pt, dashed. The hidden RFID antenna.



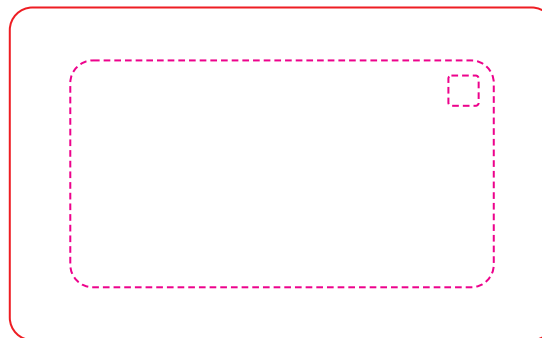
Outline and holes. The outer red line is the edge. Every closed red line inside it is cut out: a key ring hole, a band slot, a window.



Perforation. Blue dots mark a tear or snap-off line. The parts stay joined until someone snaps them apart.



Fold. A dashed green line is a fold in paper or board: a card carrier, a folder, a box.



Antenna. A dashed magenta loop is the hidden RFID antenna and the small box is its chip. Leave it out and ProofScene places a standard one.

Shine

Raised gloss UV

See-through blue (50% opacity) drawn over the artwork becomes a raised, glossy clear coating.

Also understood: Raised UV, Raised spot UV, 3D UV

Gold, silver or rose gold foil

Shapes and text in the swatch's color become mirror-shiny metal foil. Change the swatch to change the foil: gold, silver, rose gold, copper, black or any color.

Also understood: Hotfoil, Hot stamp, Foil stamp

Holographic foil

Shapes in this color become rainbow holographic foil.

Also understood: Holo foil, Hologram foil, Rainbow foil

Metallic ink

Artwork in this color prints with sparkly metallic ink in the swatch's color (softer than foil).

Also understood: Metallic print, Pearlescent ink, Pearl ink

Personalize

CO2 laser engraving

Text and shapes in this rust color are laser engraved into the surface (CO2 laser: a rust-brown burn on PVC, the natural burn on wood).

Also understood: Laser engraving, Laser etch, CO2 laser

Fiber laser engraving

Text and shapes in this charcoal color are fiber-laser engraved: the dark gray marking used for bank and transit card numbers.

Also understood: Fiber laser, Fiber, YAG laser

Thermal print

Text, numbers and barcodes in this orange print with a thermal ribbon: flat and semi-matte on top of the card. Black unless the label names a color (thermal print white, gold, silver).

Also understood: Thermal, Thermal transfer, Resin ribbon

Inkjet (DoD)

Text, numbers and barcodes in this violet print with UV drop-on-demand inkjet: slightly raised and glossy. Black unless the label names a color.

Also understood: DoD, Drop on demand, Inkjet

Embossing

Characters in this color are embossed: pressed up out of the card like credit card numbers, with silver tipping on top unless the label says gold or no tipping.

Also understood: Emboss, Raised numbers, Raised characters

Parts

Signature panel

A box in this color becomes a white write-on signature panel.

Also understood: Signature strip, Signature, Sig panel

Scratch-off panel

A shape in this color becomes a silver scratch-off panel.

Also understood: Scratch off, Scratch panel, Scratch card

Hologram patch

A shape in this color becomes a laser hologram patch.

Also understood: Hologram, Holographic patch, Hologram sticker

Magnetic stripe

A band across the card in the swatch's color becomes a magnetic stripe. HiCo is black, LoCo is brown; any color works.

Also understood: Magstripe, HiCo, LoCo

Effects

Pick a free line, paste the effect's swatch and type its name. Then draw or type the parts that get the effect in exactly that color, on the same side. Raised UV is see-through blue at 50% opacity over the artwork. Close colors and typos are read too.

Chips and parts

Contact chips are drawn at 1:1. Copy one onto the side it sits on, then add its line, for example Contact chip (6-pin, silver). Contactless chips, key rings and crystal domes need only their line.

Contact chips, 1:1



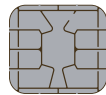
6-pin, gold



6-pin, silver

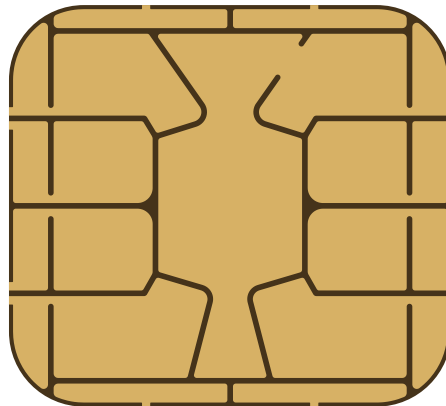
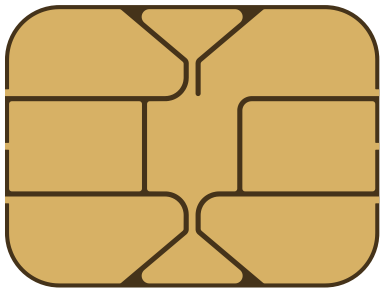


8-pin, gold



8-pin, silver

Enlarged 4.5 x



The contact layouts ProofScene renders in 3D, in gold or silver.

Parts that need only a line



Contactless chip (NFC)

A hidden RFID/NFC chip and antenna. Draw the antenna as a dashed magenta loop or let ProofScene place a standard one.



Key ring (silver)

A silver key ring through the first hole.



Crystal epoxy dome

A clear glass-like epoxy dome over the whole face (crystal key fobs).



Full color print (CMYK)

Everything else on the side is printed in full color.



Blank (no print)

Nothing is printed on this side.

Finishes and materials

Name the lamination on a line, for example F2 High gloss lamination, or give a gloss number: 92 GU is mirror gloss and 3 GU is frosted. The specification sets the material, thickness, edge color and edge foil.

Lamination, from mirror gloss to frosted



Material

PVC

Also understood: Plastic, vinyl

Recycled PVC

Also understood: Recycled plastic

PET

Also understood: PETG, polyester

Bio paper

Also understood: Stone paper

Paper

Also understood: Card stock, board

Wood

Also understood: Timber, veneer

Metal

Also understood: Stainless steel, brass

Wood: write the name of one of seven



Edge color and edge foil



The edge color swatch is the card seen side on: its fill is the core color. Metallic edge foil takes No, Gold, Silver, Rose gold, Copper, Black or Holographic.

Thickness

Write it in millimeters: 0.76 mm is a standard card, wood is usually 0.8 to 3 mm, a crystal fob about 3.7 mm. Microns and mils are read too.

1

Replace the artwork

Open a demo sheet or a blank one.
Your design goes on the Artwork layers, front and back, with 1.5 mm past the red line as bleed.

2

Add an effect

Put each effect on a free line: its swatch and its name. Draw it in that line's color on the same side.

3

Upload the PDF

Save as PDF and drop it into the 3D Studio. It tells you, in plain words, anything it could not read.

What ProofScene forgives

A color close to a swatch. Within a small distance it still counts as that key.

Typos and other words. Spot UV, hot stamp, fiber laser and many more are read.

A missing swatch. A line's label alone is enough: the format's own color is used.

No Front and Back titles. The left or upper shape is taken as the front.

Raised UV without a line. See-through blue over the artwork still reads as raised UV.



The Nivo Transit Card sheet, read by ProofScene and turned into 3D.

Make it 3D

Save the sheet as a PDF with Illustrator editing kept on, then drop it into your ProofScene 3D Studio. In about a minute you have a 3D proof to send your customer.

Open the 3D Studio

proofscene.com/studio

Talk to our team

sales@proofscene.com