

# 3 options for taking online payments

## Looking for easy ways to take payments online?

**There are plenty of different payment gateways that you could use for your business - just as an overview here are three popular ones that might work for your needs:**

### Stripe ([www.stripe.com](http://www.stripe.com))

In 2018, there were 100,000 global businesses using Stripe as a payment gateway. For customers with a large payment volume or particularly unique business model, they offer a customised account with personalised merchant fees, but for everyone else their fees are 1.4% + 20p for payments made with European cards, and 2.9% + 20p for non-European cards. You can find out more about Stripe's fees here (<https://stripe.com/gb/pricing>). Stripe can be integrated with websites fairly simply, but does require a little more technological know-how than PayPal!

### Paypal ([www.paypal.com](http://www.paypal.com))

There are over 305 million active PayPal accounts globally, demonstrating the popularity of this payment gateway! For retailers (whether you are selling products or services), it's a popular option as it is simple to set up, even on a website that doesn't have eCommerce functionality, as you can add a 'Buy now with PayPal' button quickly and simply. The merchant fees for Paypal are 2.9% + 30p per domestic transaction (you can find out more about their fees - <https://www.paypal.com/uk/webapps/mpp/merchant-fees>).

### opayo ([www.opayo.co.uk](http://www.opayo.co.uk))

This was formally known as SagePay. Opayo is another popular payment gateway, with over 55,000 UK businesses using it. Pricing for Opayo starts at £27pcm for 350 transactions per month. You can find out more about their fees here - <https://www.opayo.co.uk/our-payment-solutions/online-payments>

**If you are planning on taking online payments for products or services, you need to ensure that you are ready for P2SD (the Second Payment Services Directive), which came into effect in September 2019 but will be enforced from September 2021 in the UK. PSD2 introduces strict security requirements for electronic payments to reduce the risk of fraud, and includes customer authentication to ensure that customers are who they say they are! You may have noticed that more and more of your purchases online require two forms of authentication (i.e. a pin or password, or even a fingerprint match), which is carried out to reduce the risk of bank cards being used fraudulently. Opayo, PayPal and Stripe all have technology in place to help ensure that electronic payments are protected in line with the EU regulations, so whichever payment gateway you use, you can rest assured that your customer transactions are protected as much as possible.**