All MasterCard account numbers begin with a 5. The characters and numbers embossed on the card should be clear and uniform in size and spacing.

A four-digit number may be pre-printed on the card. It must match the first four digits of the account number.

The Valid Date lists the last date on which the card is valid. Some cards may have an Effective Date as well.

The MasterCard security character is embossed on the same line as the valid dates.

The signature on the signature panel should reasonably compare with the signature on the sales draft.

The account number embossed on the face of the card should be exactly the same as the 16-digit account number printed on the signature panel and encoded on the magnetic stripe (the number displayed on the terminal and/or printed on the sales draft).

There is an ultraviolet M and C on the face of the card visible when placed under a black light.

A hologram with interlocking globes showing the continents should appear three dimensional and move when the card is tilted. The word MasterCard will appear in the background of the hologram. The letters "MC" are micro-engraved around the two rings.

The 16-digit account number is indent printed in reverse italics on the signature panel and is followed by a 3-digit card validation code (CVC2).

The word "MasterCard" is printed in multi-colors at a 45° angle on a tamper-evident signature panel.