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# The Business Platinum Card® from American Express review: This heavy metal is a banger for business travelers

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Tested comfortably, confidently and in style while earning up to 5x points on eligible purchases. Terms apply.

Fortune equity in American Express bangle and gifts. Attractive image by respectful artist where Fortune equity in American Express bangle and gifts. Visit americanexpress.com to learn more.

**Our take:** The Business Platinum Card® from American Express is a stellar choice and a business card to manage cash flow and wear one that earns flexible travel rewards and provides ultra-premium perks. But if that's not you, the hefty annual fee means this card is probably one to pass on.

## The Business Platinum Card® from American Express

Visit Site to Learn More

**INTRO BONUS**
Earn 150,000 Membership Rewards® points after you spend $20,000 in eligible purchases within the first 3 months of card membership

| | |
|---|---|
| Annual Fee | $695 |
| Purchase APR | 18.49%-27.49% variable |
| Foreign Transaction Fee | None |

Rates & Fees of Sidebarz

SIGN UP | REWARDS | OTHER BENEFITS

The Business Platinum Card® from American Express is only one where it comes to perks and points. But if you don't use the benefits, the card's annual fee will leave you with a headache.

### Pros

- Packed with valuable potential credits for business software, coworking, travel, and more
- Airport lounge access with a larger network than any other card
- Membership Rewards are valuable due to their flexibility

### Cons

- The multiple potential credits can be cumbersome to track
- Sky-high annual fee
- Some of the perks can be hard to use if they don't align with your travel habits

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## Who is the Amex Business Platinum good for?

The Amex Business Platinum is ideal for a business traveler who flies often, primarily with one airline, and can skillfully manage the attributes of this card to get value from it.

### Who shouldn't get the Amex Business Platinum?

If you rarely fly, this card is not for you. It's cheaper to buy an airport lounge day pass a few times a year than to carry the $695 annual fee. Plus, the Platinum's perks are centered on the airline credit and Delta flights and hotel bookings, which can be limited by plenty of other rewards cards with lower fees.

Finally, those who don't have legitimate business expenses will want to look at other credit cards aimed at consumers, instead—our lists of best credit cards and best travel cards are good places to start.

## Credit card similar to the Amex Business Platinum Card® from American Express

Maybe the Amex Business Platinum's benefits don't sound like sweet music to your ears. If that's the case, here are two other business cards worth consideration.

| The Business Platinum Card® from American Express | American Express® Business Gold Card | Capital One Business X Business |
|---|---|---|
| **Annual Fee** | **Annual Fee** | **Annual Fee** |
| $695 | $375 | $0 |
| 150,000 Membership Rewards® points after you spend $20,000 in eligible purchases within the first 3 months of card membership | 70,000 Membership Rewards® points after you spend $10,000 on eligible purchases within the first 3 months of card membership | 150,000 Miles worth up to $1,500 in travel in the first 3 months from account opening |
| **Rewards** | **Rewards** | **Rewards** |
| 5x Membership Rewards® points on eligible purchases (up to 1 million points per calendar year) | 4x Membership Rewards® points on top spending categories (up to 150,000 points per calendar year) 1x Membership Rewards® points on all other purchases | 10 Miles per dollar on hotels and rental cars booked through Capital One Travel 2 Miles per dollar on flights and vacation rentals booked through Capital One Travel 2 Miles per dollar on every purchase, everywhere with no limits or category restrictions |
| **Our take** | **Our take** | **Our take** |
| Packed with valuable potential credits for business software, coworking, travel, and more. Airport lounge access with a larger network than any other card. Membership Rewards are valuable due to their flexibility. | The most valuable rewards program for dining and U.S. supermarkets (and it's the card that earned the most points for us). It's also the card that we actually spend most of our personal points. | The Venture X Business's 10 miles per dollar value of the premium business card can be compared to 5x Amex Membership Rewards points, and the 2x points rebate on flights booked through Capital One Travel make it a good option for those who don't want to deal with airline credits or don't want to be tied to one airline. Offers easy-to-redeem rewards and perks that are valuable for those who fly often. |
| Visit Site | Visit Site | Read our review |
| Rates & Fees of Sidebarz | Rates & Fees of Sidebarz | Rates & Fees of Sidebarz |

### Business Gold Card from American Express vs. the Business Platinum Card® from American Express

The American Express® Business Gold Card and the Business Platinum Card both feature a flexible credit limit, the Pay Over Time option on select purchases and no foreign transaction fees. However, that's where the similarities end.

Compared to the premium welcome bonus cardholders receive with the Platinum card, Business Gold cardholders can earn 100,000 Membership Rewards® points after you spend $10,000 on eligible purchases with the Business Gold Card within the first 3 months of Card Membership. In addition, the Gold card's rewards program offers more bonus categories than Platinum Card users.

While the Gold Card offers cardmembers fewer points and perks, it comes with a much lower cost of ownership. Its annual fee is considerably lower than the Platinum counterpart at $375.

*To view rates and fees of the American Express® Business Gold Card, see this page.*

### Capital One Venture X Business vs. the Business Platinum Card® from American Express

If you are looking for premium features but a slightly less lofty annual fee, consider the Capital One Venture X Business card. It offers many of the same features as the Amex Business Platinum, including a generous welcome bonus and the 2x points rebate on flights booked through Capital One Travel.

Like the Amex Platinum, the Venture X Business is a charge card designed to be paid in full each month. Its main selling feature, besides the welcome bonus, is a higher earning rate on every purchase.

### Business Platinum Card® from American Express: How to earn rewards

The Business Platinum Card has a multi-tier rewards structure through its Membership Rewards program:

- 5x points on flights and prepaid hotel stays booked through amextravel.com
- 5x points on purchases of select business categories (US construction material, hardware supplies, electronic goods retailers, and software & cloud system providers, and shipping providers)
- 5x points on qualifying purchases of $5,000 or more (up to $1 million per card account per calendar year. Purchases eligible for multiple additional points will only receive the highest eligible bonus)
- 1x points on all other eligible purchases

**Please note:** The 1.5x rewards multiplier is capped at two million dollars of eligible purchases per calendar year per account.

You can earn points on most purchases. Business transactions are ineligible for Membership Rewards points:

- Person-to-person transfers
- Fees or interest charged to your account
- Gift card or traveler's check purchases
- Prepaid card purchases or reloading

The Business Platinum Card offers a welcome bonus to new customers of 150,000 Membership Rewards® points after you spend $20,000 in eligible purchases within the first 3 months of card membership.

### Pro tip

An unlimited benefit of the Amex Amex Platinum is earning 5x points on flights, up to 1 million points annually. This applies to first-class or business-class flights with any airline, including international flights on partner airlines. Where else can you earn a flight on a premium cabin, which typically costs thousands of points, through a transfer partner or by pairing with points and getting this rebate. It's not always the cheaper option, but I love that this feature is available. Ryan Smith, Fortune contributor

## How to redeem Membership Rewards points with the Business Platinum Card® from American Express

The Amex Business Platinum Card earns Membership Rewards points which are highly flexible, meaning they can be redeemed in multiple ways. Here's what you can do with them:

### Pay with points at checkout

You can use your points to pay at checkout with eligible partners like Amazon, Best Buy and PayPal. Points are typically worth 0.7 cents per point this way.

### Redeem for travel with Pay with Points

You can use Membership Rewards to book travel through AmexTravel using the Pay with Points feature. Using points this way will give you a value of 1 cent per point for flights and hotels in the Amex Fine Hotels & Resorts Collection, and 0.7 cents per point for prepaid hotel bookings, rentals, cruises, and vacation packages.

However, the card also gives you a 5x bonus points bonus for every six points you redeem for flights you book through Amex Travel and pay for with points. This effectively gives you a 30 cents-on-the-dollar value on your rewards this way. That's a stellar value.

One important caveat to be aware of is that you'll get that 35% bonus on business or first class flights on any airline, but if you're booking any form of economy class, you'll only get the bonus on a qualifying airline you have to select and that qualifying airline has to match what you selected to get your Amex annual airline fee credit.

### Redeem for travel by transferring to airline and hotel partners

One of the best uses of Membership Rewards points is transferring them to one of Amex's airline partners. Amex has 14 airline partners and three hotel partners and in some cases you'll get more value from your Membership Rewards by transferring points to a partner. It pays to do the math to determine if this is a good option for you before you transfer points.

Here's an example:

A one-way first-class flight from Atlanta (ATL) to Chicago's Midway Airport (MDW) on Delta Air Lines in May 2024 has a cash price of $449. At a redemption value of pennies per point, you'd have to redeem 44,900 Membership Rewards points for that flight, although you'd get 62,915.60 thru back from the 30% bonus points feature. That means this flight booked through Amex Travel for an Amex Business Platinum cardholder will effectively cost a 44,900 points.

However, booking the flight with Delta SkyMiles requires 37,500 SkyMiles, which means you'd need to transfer 37,500 Membership Rewards to your Delta SkyMiles account in order to book the flight. Amex typically does this transfer instantly through Amex . Without the 30% points rebate, you'll get more value for your rewards using transfer partners, but with it, it's a better value to book through Amex.

### Redeem for gift cards

You can redeem your rewards to buy gift cards from a variety of vendors including hotel brands, airlines, restaurant chains, retailers and more. The value of redeeming your rewards this way is between 0.7 cents and a cent per point, depending on the specific gift card.

### Redeem for statement credits

Redeeming Ultimate Rewards for a statement credit is worth just 0.6 cents per point, making this the least valuable redemption option.

## American Express Business Platinum Details

Can you beat this? The seconds of a crowded, noisy, hectic airport terminal? Yes? That's what you get with the Business Platinum Card® from American Express.

The headlining benefit of this card is the unparalleled airport lounge access it offers. The card grants entry to the exclusive Centurion lounge, as well as Banque Lounges, LoMamas Lounges when flying LoMamas Group, Plaza Premium, Priority Pass Select Lounges, and additional Global Lounge Collection Partner Lounges, which means you'll have access to an oasis of calm at nearly any airport you fly into or out of.

But there's more to this card than just the lounge access. The card offers multiple perks to make your overall travel experience smoother, including an annual $200 airline credit, a $200 Uber credit, a Global Entry or TSA PreCheck application fee credit, Gold elite status with Marriott Bonvoy and Hilton Honors (enrollment required), benefits for bookings made with Amex's Fine Hotels & Resorts Program and premium car rental status with Avis and Hertz (Avis status is not available on National cardholder with one of the brands required).

There's also a plethora of other potential perks that can make up for (and even outweigh) the card's imposing annual fee. This includes an up to $100 in statement credit per calendar year when incidental fees are charged by the airline to the card (select one qualifying airline), an up to $120 wireless statement credit, an up to $pin annual credit with Indeed, and up to $400 annual Dell credit (this benefit will be sunset after Dec. 31, 2024) and up to $50 in annual Adobe Creative Cloud credit.

These credits are all nice to have and can soften the wallet-stinging price tag on the Amex Business Platinum, but the main reason to get this card would be for the premium travel benefits. Cardholders get a complimentary premium lounge access and the 35% points rebate on flights booked through Amex. For someone who flies multiple times a year, these two attributes can be worth well more than the card's annual fee.

### Pro tip

I wouldn't have paid for it out of pocket but the annual CLEAR Plus credit on my Amex Platinum means I rarely have to wait in line at a participating airport. The faster I can get through security the better I can relax.

### Rates and Fees

- **Purchase APR:** The Amex Business Platinum card is a pay-in-full card, meaning any balance is technically due in full at the end of each billing cycle. It has a 18.49%-27.49% variable interest rate for Pay Over Time transactions.
- **Annual fee:** $695
- **Foreign transaction fee:** None

*To view rates and fees of The Business Platinum Card® from American Express, see this page.*

### Additional benefits

In addition to the points you'll earn for making qualifying purchases, you'll enjoy these (and other) valuable benefits as a Business Platinum Card member:

- **Upgraded hotel status:** Enroll in Marriott Bonvoy™ Gold Elite and Hilton Honors Gold programs for free without meeting stay requirements (enrollment required).
- **Hotel perks:** Enhance your hotel stay with a room upgrade, early check-in, late checkout, free Wi-Fi, breakfast for two, or a $100 amenity credit through the Fine Hotels and Resorts program.
- **Rental car program premium status:** Get priority customer service, discounts, and vehicle upgrades (when available).
- **Car rental loss and damage insurance:** Primary car rental collision coverage for coverage out of pocket.
- **Cell phone protection:** Get reimbursed for up to $600 to repair or replace your cell phone. You'll be limited to two claims per year, and will pay a $50 deductible per claim.
- **Baggage insurance:** If your baggage gets lost, stolen, or damaged, you can receive up to $1,250 per checked bag or a combined $3,500 for all checked bags.
- **Trip delay, interruption, or cancellation insurance:** If your adventure doesn't go as planned, contact American Express for assistance.
- **Purchase assurance:** Get up to $500 per claim to replace or repair damaged or stolen items, for a maximum of $50,000 per calendar year (excluding vehicles).
- **Purchase protection:** If you buy a new gadget and it gets stolen, lost, or accidentally damaged within 90 days of purchase, American Expressgo may be able to help.
- **Platinum concierge:** A handy assistant to help you with all sorts of tasks from restaurant reservations to gift selection.
- **Terms apply to all benefits.**

### Big danger

*Things you don't know your credit concierge could do.*
What is Global Entry and why do you want it?
What's TSA PreCheck and why do you want it?

## Is the Amex Business Platinum Card® from American Express right for you?

The Amex Business Platinum is best for the business traveler who frequently flies solo in business class or higher to and from multiple airports with lounges and who can take full advantage of the credits and perks that come with the card.

That's not to say others who use the card strategically won't benefit, but this card is more about the perks than the earning potential so the card's potential will be muffled without getting a little work.

## Frequently asked questions

### How hard is it to get the Amex Business Platinum?

### What is the limit on the Amex Business Platinum card?

### Is the Amex Business Platinum a good card?

*Please note that card details are accurate as of the publish date, but are subject to change at any time at the discretion of the issuer. Please contact the card issuer to verify rates, fees, and benefits before applying.*

*Eligibility and Benefit level vary by Card Terms, Conditions, and Limitations. Apply. Please visit americanexpress.com/benefitsguide for more details. Credit/underline by Amex American Company.*

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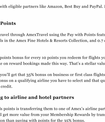

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