

MAGNETIC STRIPE CARD READERS

M170-U USB 3-Track Magnetic Stripe Card Reader, Keyboard Output

The M170-U is a compact USB swipe reader for ISO magnetic stripe cards, built for membership, loyalty, hotel, ID and attendance systems. It reads tracks 1, 2 and 3, accepts swipes in either direction at 15–120 cm/s and types the data into any text field as keyboard input, with no driver to install.

- Reads tracks 1, 2 and 3 — Track 1 up to 79 characters, Track 2 up to 40 and Track 3 up to 107, from ISO 7810–7813 cards.
- No driver — the reader enumerates as a USB keyboard on Windows, Linux and Android hosts and types data wherever the cursor is.
- Configurable output — a PC setting utility selects which tracks are sent and switches start/end sentinels, the Enter suffix and the beeper on or off.
- Swipe either way — bi-directional swipe at 15–120 cm/s with F2F decoding, plus an LED and optional buzzer for feedback.
- Small footprint — 91.4 × 27.6 × 28.2 mm and 80 g, powered from the USB bus at ≤ 50 mA.
- Rated head life — the read head is rated for ≥ 800,000 passes.



General	
Model	M170-U
Reader type	Magnetic stripe swipe reader, read-only
Form factor	Compact desktop swipe reader
Standards	ISO 7810–7813

Cards & reading	
Tracks	Track 1, Track 2 and Track 3
Track 1	IATA, 210 bpi, up to 79 characters
Track 2	ABA, 75 bpi, up to 40 characters
Track 3	210 bpi, up to 107 characters
Card type	ISO magnetic stripe cards, PVC 0.76 ± 0.08 mm
Decoding	F2F
Swipe direction	Bi-directional
Swipe speed	15–120 cm/s
Head track width	1.5 mm
Head life	≥ 800,000 passes

Interface & output	
Interface	USB, keyboard emulation (driver-free)
Track output	Track 1, 2 or 3, any two tracks, or all three
Configurable settings	Track selection, start/end sentinels, Enter suffix, beeper
Configuration tool	PC setting utility
Operating systems	Windows XP / 7 / 10, Linux, Android
Indicators	LED; buzzer (optional)

Physical & environment	
Dimensions	91.4 × 27.6 × 28.2 mm
Weight	80 g net; 100 g gross
Package size	138.7 × 67 × 41.4 mm
Housing	ABS
Color	Black
Cable length	1420 mm
Power	5 V DC ± 5 % (USB bus), ≤ 50 mA
Operating temperature	0 °C to +70 °C
Storage temperature	−30 °C to +70 °C
Humidity	Operating 0–90 % RH; storage 0–95 % RH

Works with

- ✓ ISO 7810–7813 magnetic stripe cards on 0.76 ± 0.08 mm PVC
- ✓ Tracks 1, 2 and 3 of membership, loyalty, hotel, ID and attendance cards
- ✓ Windows XP, 7 and 10, Linux and Android hosts with a USB port
- ✓ Any application that accepts keyboard input: web forms, spreadsheets, POS and membership software

Not designed for

- ✗ Writing, encoding or copying magnetic stripes (read-only reader)
- ✗ Contactless RFID/NFC cards — use the L110-U (125kHz) or H110-U (13.56MHz)
- ✗ Contact chip (smart card) reading
- ✗ RS232 serial ports (USB only)

OEM / ODM options (confirmed per order)

- ◆ Output preset before shipment to match your software (track selection, start/end sentinels, Enter suffix, beeper), confirmed in your quotation
- ◆ Logo and private-label packaging on request, confirmed in your quotation
- ◆ Build with or without the buzzer, which is optional on this model

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Specifications describe the standard version and may change without notice. Read range depends on the card or tag, mounting and environment. Pricing, configuration, lead time and terms are confirmed in your quotation.