

Next Generation Passport

We are excited to announce the launch of our next generation U.S. passport book which is smarter, safer, and better.

Meet the Next Generation Passport
Smarter. Safer. Better.



- Improved security features to help protect your identity.
- Enhanced security features make counterfeiting or altering more difficult.
- More secure document streamlines the entry and exit process.



This image shows the next generation U.S. passport book. The new passport book has enhanced security features to protect your identity and make counterfeiting more difficult.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Next Generation Passport?



Our new passport is a modernized U.S. passport book designed to be smarter, safer, and better. While the ePassports we currently issue to customers are secure, the Next Generation Passport (NGP) uses new technologies to produce a more robust passport with enhanced security features, such as a polycarbonate data page, laser engraved personalization, and updated artwork.

What is the difference between the Next Generation Passport and ePassport?



The most visible changes to the new passport book are the polycarbonate, multi-layered plastic, data page, and the passport number, which now includes both letters and numbers.

What is an alphanumeric passport number?



The passport number in the NGP book begins with a letter, followed by eight numbers. It is located in the top right corner of your data page and is included throughout the NGP book on the bottom of each page.

Do changes to the U.S. passport require current travelers to change or upgrade their book or card?



No. Passport books and cards remain valid for international travel until their date of expiration. You may continue to travel with your current ePassport book or card without a problem. For information on how to renew your passport, visit [How to Apply](#).

Why are you releasing a new passport book now?



After years of research to modernize and upgrade the passport, we are ready to launch our next generation passport book. Our design team has developed a next generation passport based on industry standard technology and new capabilities. We have worked on this multi-year project in coordination with the

Department of Homeland Security, the Government Publishing Office, and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

How can I request a Next Generation Passport?



You cannot request a specific version of the passport book, and we cannot guarantee that you will receive a Next Generation Passport. We are gradually replacing existing ePassport printers with NGP printers at our passport agencies and centers. Since ePassports continue to meet and exceed international passport security standards, both ePassports and the NGP can be used for international travel.

Will there be changes to the passport card?



We will soon upgrade and modernize the passport card.

Is the new passport a REAL ID?



All passport books and passport cards are acceptable alternatives to a state-issued REAL ID and may be used for domestic travel. There are multiple alternatives to a state-issued REAL ID besides a U.S. passport. To learn more about REAL ID, visit the [Department of Homeland Security's website](#).