



Blank Credit Card Annual Fee Cost/Benefit Analysis Worksheet

Card annual fee: _____

	Benefit	My Value	Notes
A			
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G	Signup bonus value		
H	Total Year One Value		Add lines A-G
	Total Year 2 and beyond value		Subtract line G
	Am I ahead or behind?		Subtract annual fee. If it's not negative, you could do well with this card. If it's negative, you may be better off without this card.

SAMPLE COMPLETED WORKSHEET: Chase Sapphire Reserve

(Fees/benefits are as of November 2017 and subject to change - this is meant as an example analysis only.)

Card annual fee: \$450

	Benefit	My Value	Notes
A	\$300 Annual Travel Credit (good on any travel including air, hotel, car rental, parking, parking meters, taxi, tolls, Uber/Lyft)	\$300	I probably spend \$300 on these categories in a month. Easy.
B	Priority Pass Lounge Access	\$100	It includes Priority Pass lounge access for me and unlimited guests with no per-visit fee. While worth more than \$100 to buy the same, I lower the value because a) I can live without lounge access and b) I get it from other Premium cards. This is very subjective.
C	Global Entry reimbursement	\$100 in year 1, \$0 thereafter. Value at \$20	You can only get this once every 5 years. For simplicity, I'll amortize over 5 years at \$20 a year.

D	Primary car rental insurance	\$50	This is actually a major benefit if you own a car, carry your own insurance, but rent cars often. Primary CDW (Collission Damage Waiver) and LDW (Loss Damage Waiver) means you are 100% covered and will never need to involve your own policy - even for a deductible.
E	No Foreign Transaction Fee	\$0	I'm glad it's a feature but most of my travel credit cards offer this.
F	Rewards	\$250	Another tricky one. You earn points worth at a minimum 1.5 cents apiece. But with transfer partners and category bonuses of 3x points for all travel and dining, you have a 4.5% cash back card here when you spend on travel and dining and redeem in the portal. An average card is 1-2%. How much you value this depends on your annual spending on travel and dining. I'm assuming I spend \$10,000 a year there and compared to a 2% cash back card come out \$250 ahead (\$10,000 at 4.5% vs \$10,000 at 2% in rewards). I'll do even better if I transfer points to airlines/hotels.
G	Signup bonus value	\$750	The current bonus is 50,000 Ultimate Rewards points which are worth a minimum of \$750 when redeemed through the Chase travel portal. Use this only in calculating your year one value.

H	Total Year One Value	\$1,470	Add lines A-G
	Total Year 2 and beyond value	\$720	Subtract line G
	Am I ahead or behind?	\$270	Subtract annual fee. If it's not negative, you could do well with this card. If it's negative, you may be better off without this card.