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The Magnetic card reader writer â€" from Data History to Flexible Modern Device by [Ewan Fisher](#)

The Magnetic card reader writer is one of the most historic methods of data storage. Originally. Magnetic cards were used to store programs, which were then transported between installations and entered into their host computers via the magnetic card reader.

These days, the Magnetic card reader writer is most commonly used as access control, or to verify information about a card holderâ€™s personal details (for example bank details). The simplest form of magnetic card programming and action is a simple yes or no: the card is programmed with a condition, which must be met in order for the system to deliver a â€œyesâ€• and allow a specified action to occur.

So in the case of a simple access control system, the Magnetic card reader writer might program the magnetic stripe on the back of the card with a pair of dates â€" the â€œfromâ€• and â€œtoâ€• dates b which the card is valid for entry. This is most commonly seen in the electronic door keys used by modern hotels.

When the card is inserted into the Magnetic card reader writer (in our hotel example, there is a reader writer embedded in the door lock itself), the device reads the â€œfromâ€• and â€œtoâ€• dates enc the strip, and sends that information to the computer at the heart of the system. The computer (or in standalone cases, a single Magnetic card reader writer device) is programmed with a set of conditions that the information on the magnetic strip must meet.

In the case of a simply programmed entry and exit card, the computer program matches the actual date with the â€œfromâ€• and â€œtoâ€• dates encoded in the strip. If the actual date falls on or between and â€œtoâ€• dates, the lock opens. If it doesnâ€™t, it doesnâ€™t.

Clearly on the last day of occupancy, the guest must be able to get in using the Magnetic card reader writer for a short period in the morning (up until checkout). So the computer will probably be programmed with a condition that expresses the following in code: if todayâ€™s date matches the â€œtoâ date programmed on the card, then only open the door if it is before 1100 hours.

Of course, a magnetic card can theoretically be programmed with as much information as the end user deems necessary. And the conditions for activating a â€œyesâ€• or â€œnoâ€• response in the syste concomitantly complicated.

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Proto-PIC is a website designed originally as a front-line resource for electronics enthusiasts and hobbyists. Proto-PIC is particularly concentrated on Microcontroller Programming and Development, supplying kits and individual parts made by the biggest names in the hobby electronics world.a [magnetic card reader writer](#)

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