Sell and Redeem Gift Cards in Jackrabbit

Last Modified on 11/03/2020 12:33 am EST

Gift cards and certificates are a great way to add a new revenue stream for your business and bring in new customers. Whether it's a birthday celebration, graduation, anniversary or other occasion, a gift card is the perfect way to spoil someone. Sell them year-round to bring in additional revenue on top of your usual services and products.

Gift cards are like cash to the recipient, but how they are handled on your end of things is not quite as straightforward. The initial sale of the gift card creates a liability for your business (an obligation to provide goods or services for the value of the card). That liability does not become revenue until the gift card is redeemed. This makes it vital to be able to track each gift card sold and know how much is still outstanding at any time.



While gift cards are great sources of revenue it's important to adhere to accounting rules (GAAP) when recording them and comply with local legislation related to accounting for unused gift cards, known as "breakage" revenue. Consult your accountant or tax preparer

for guidance.

Use the following process to record the sale and redemption of gift cards. This method allows you to retain an accurate breakdown of your revenue, correctly report your organization's liability (unredeemed gift cards), and comply with tax and accounting requirements.

Get Set Up



Sell a Gift Card



Redeem a Gift Card



Report on Gift Cards



Get Set Up

Before you get started selling gift cards, there are a few things to set up in Jackrabbit.

Jackrabbit is not an accounting program; it tracks revenue and accounts receivable, but is not designed to handle liabilities. Because gift cards are a liability until redeemed, there is a need for a little creativity in recording the sale and redemption of gift cards in Jackrabbit.

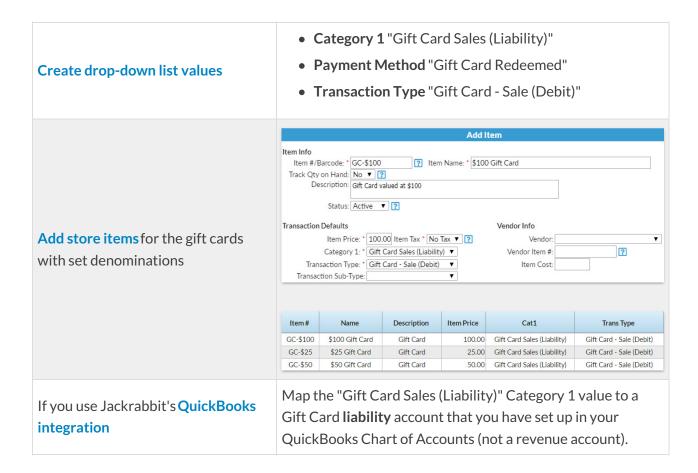
With the method stepped out in this article, the sale of a gift card takes the payment in, records the sale as 'revenue', and puts it into a Category 1 which will be labeled "Gift Card Sales (Liability)" to allow you to differentiate it from your actual revenue categories.

When a gift card is redeemed in Jackrabbit, it will be recorded as a Payment (Credit) and will be included in your Deposit Slip. Creating a Payment Method of "Gift Card Redeemed" allows you to distinguish which payments were monetary vs which were redeemed gift cards. See the **example** below for an illustration of how this appears on Jackrabbit reports.



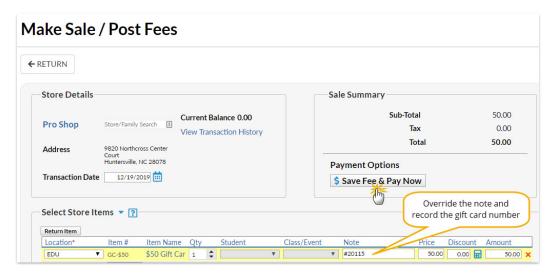


Gift card sales WILL appear on your revenue statements and gift card redemptions WILL appear on your Deposit Slip report. It is necessary to follow this set up to ensure the visibility you will need to adjust things in your accounting program.



Sell a Gift Card

Gift cards are sold using the *Select Store Items* section of the **Make Sale/Post Fees** screen (from a *Family* record or the *Store* menu).



• Select the required denomination from the store items you added in theset up.

• Override the *Note* field (automatically filled with the item name) and record the gift card number. Note: This must be done to allow you to track outstanding card balances.

Redeem a Gift Card

Gift cards are redeemed by recording them as a payment in the **Payment Transaction Entry** screen (from a *Family* record or the *Store* menu > *Make Sale*).



- Set the Pmt Type to Payment.
- Select the Gift Card Redeemed Method (payment) drop-down value you added duringset up.
- Record the **gift card number** in the *Chk#* field. Note: This must be done in order to allow you to track outstanding card balances.

Report on Gift Cards

There are several Jackrabbit reports that will allow you to track the sale and redemption of gift cards, and calculate the balances on gift cards that have not been fully redeemed.

Sales Detail Store menu > Store Reports	 Displays a listing of all gift cards sold over the selected period (looks to the store items created during set up)
Deposit Slip Reports menu > Transactions/Financials	 Summarizes all gift cards redeemed during the selected time period (looks to the <i>Transaction Type</i> = Payment (Credit) and the Payment Method Gift Card Redeemed that was added during set up)
Paid Fees Reports menu > Transactions/Financials	 Provides details of gift cards sold during the selected period (looks to the <i>Transaction Type</i> = Payment (Credit) and the Category 1 Gift Card Sales (Liability) that was added during set up)
Transaction Search Transactions menu > Search	 When filtered for Transaction Types = Payment (Credit) and Gift Card Sale (Debit), provides a register of gift card sales

and gift card redemptions with the gift card numbers. Export to Excel and sort by the columns with the card number to calculate outstanding gift card balances.



See the **example below** to follow through a business scenario and see what these reports look like in action!

Example

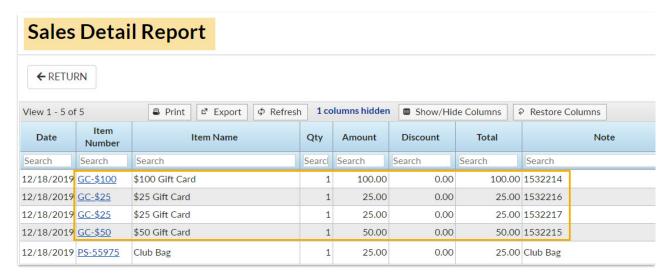
This example outlines a business scenario where gift cards are sold were redeemed. It illustrates the various reporting options when the transactions are recorded in Jackrabbit using the process outlined above.

On December 18, 2019:

- 4 gift cards were sold totaling \$200, and payment was received.
- 3 gift cards were redeemed, totaling \$140:
 - The Ager family paid an event fee (\$25) and December dance tuition (\$75) with their \$100 gift card #1532214
 - The Brown family bought some merchandise (\$25) with their \$25 gift card #1532216
 - The Evans family used part of their \$25 gift card #1532217 to pay the balance owing on a tuition fee (\$15). There is \$10 remaining on their gift card.

The reports for that day are:

Sales Detail



Deposit Slip

		De	eposit Slip		
		12/18	/2019 - 12/18/2019		
Item #	Date	Chk#	Account(Billin	g Contact)	Amount
Pmt Me	thod: Chec	k			
1	12/18/2019	114	Pro Shop ()		100.00
				Sub-total:	100.00
				Check total:	100.00
Pmt Me	thod: Gift (Card Redeem	ed		
2	12/18/2019	1532214	Ager (Holly Ager)		100.00
3	12/18/2019	1532216	Brown (Janice Brown)		25.00
4	12/18/2019	1532217	Evans (Taylor Ev	ans)	15.00
				Sub-total:	140.00
			Gift Card F	Redeemed total:	140.00
Pmt Me	thod: Visa				
5	12/18/2019		Pro Shop ()		100.00
				Sub-total:	100.00
				Visa total:	100.00
Refunds Total: 0.00 Ne					340.00
				# of Items:	5

Paid Fees

Paid Fees Detail

12/18/2019 - 12/18/2019 Pmt Pmt Fee Amt Cat1 Pmt Date Family/Acct Fee Date Trans Type Method Tax Note Amt Dance 12/18/19 Gift Card Ager 12/1/19 Tuition Fee December 67.50 7.50 Redeemed 12/18/19 Gift Card Ager 12/1/19 Tuition Fee December 67.50 67.50 Redeemed 12/18/19 Evans 12/2/19 Tuition Fee part redeem - bal \$10 Gift Card 15.00 15.00 Redeemed **Tuition Fee Subtotal:** 90.00 0.00 0.00 90.00 Dance Total: Gift Card Sales (Liability) 12/18/19 12/18/19 Gift Card - Sale 1532214 100.00 100.00 Pro Shop Check 12/18/19 Pro Shop 12/18/19 Gift Card - Sale 1532215 Visa 50.00 50.00 12/18/19 Pro Shop 12/18/19 Gift Card - Sale 1532216 Visa 25.00 25.00 12/18/19 Gift Card - Sale 1532217 25.00 12/18/19 Pro Shop Visa 25.00 Gift Card - Sale Subtotal: 0.00 200.00 Gift Card Sales (Liability) Total: 0.00 200.00 Merchandise 12/18/19 Brown 12/18/19 Merchandise Club Bag Gift Card 25.00 25.00 Redeemed Merchandise Subtotal: 0.00 25.00 0.00 25.00 Merchandise Total: Parent's Night 12/18/19 12/13/19 Event Fee 25.00 25.00 Ager Gift Card Redeemed **Event Fee Subtotal:** 0.00 25.00 0.00 25.00 Parent's Night Total: 0.00 340.00 # of Items: Total:

Search Transactions

Search Transactions filtered for Transaction Types Payment (Credit) and Gift Card Sale (Debit)

				Date	Туре	Amt	Unpaid Amt	Family/Acct	Balance	Note	Pmt Method	Cat1
•	•	G	R	12/18/2019	Payment	-25.00		Brown	150.00		Gift Card Redeemed 1532216	
	ŧ	S	R	12/18/2019	Payment	-15.00		Evans	564.00	part redeem - bal \$10	Gift Card Redeemed 1532217	
•		6	R	12/18/2019	Payment	-100.00		Pro Shop	21.00		Visa	
		G		12/18/2019	Gift Card - Sale	25.00		Pro Shop	21.00	1532217	Visa	Gift Card Sales (Liability)
		6		12/18/2019	Gift Card - Sale	25.00		Pro Shop	21.00	1532216	Visa	Gift Card Sales (Liability)
9	•	0		12/18/2019	Gift Card - Sale	50.00		Pro Shop	21.00	1532215	Visa	Gift Card Sales (Liability)
0		6	R	12/18/2019	Payment	-100.00		Pro Shop	21.00		Check 114	
		9		12/18/2019	Gift Card - Sale	100.00		Pro Shop	21.00	1532214	Check 114	Gift Card Sales (Liability)
•	•	G	R	12/18/2019	Payment	-100.00		Ager	276.90		Gift Card Redeemed 1532214	
						-140.00	0.00					

[★] If you are using the QuickBooks export, view the IIF file and QuickBooks reports for this example here.