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Quick Guide

PIN rules for smart cards

Status: released   V2.0

A PIN must be defined for the certificates on the smart card.

A **PIN must contain 6-14 characters,** whereby special characters are not allowed.

Notes:

- Uppercase and lowercase letters are different characters.
- The PIN is NOT checked against dictionaries.

1. Basic rule

A **PIN must contain 6-14 characters**, WITHOUT special characters or accented characters (Umlauts, …).

The following are allowed:

- Uppercase letters
- Lowercase letters
- Numbers
- A PIN that consists only of numbers is allowed.

Not allowed are:

Type	Examples
Special characters	+ * % & ! ? £ $ ° § # @ ¢ ~
Special characters in different languages	ç é è ê
Umlauts	ä Ä ö Ö ü Ü

2. Additional rules

The following rules also apply:

Rules	Example – OK	Example – Not OK
There must be at least a number within the PIN.	Hrt7upWz	HRTupWZ
The same character may appear a maximum of three times.	AAA18oiu AAaaa18oiu AAAbbc18	AAAA18oiu AAaaaa18oiu AAAbbAc18
It is not possible to repeat more than three different characters.	AAbbCCeg	AAbbCCee
No more than three letters of the alphabet or numbers may appear in succession.	ABCoiu18 012ou456 678pur	ABCDoiu18 0123ou456 6789purt

3. Links to further quick guides about «PIN»

The following quick guides, which you can find on the PKI homepage [Class B - Forms and documents library](#), can help you with PINs:

- **Quick Guide: PIN Reset - Resetting the PIN for Classe B Smartcard**
  → Resetting the PIN if it is no longer valid/known

- **Quick Guide: SafeNet Authentication Client (SAC)**
  → Set a new PIN if the current PIN is still valid/known