## **Target Market Determination**

# afterpay

## 1. About this document

This target market determination (TMD) sets out the class of customers for which the Afterpay product has been designed, having regard to the objectives, financial situation and needs of customers in the product's target market.

This TMD is not to be treated as a full summary of the product's terms and conditions and is not intended to provide financial advice. Customers must refer to the relevant terms and conditions under the product when making a decision about this product.

This TMD applies to the Afterpay Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL) product only and is effective from 5 October 2021.

## 2. Class of customers that fall within this target market

The Afterpay product is for consumers who would like an alternative to traditional credit products which enables them to buy products and services on a 'buy now, receive now, pay later' basis.

Afterpay has been purposefully designed as a safe product for consumers, with strong inbuilt protections. Afterpay customers start with low spending limits and are required to make their first repayment upfront. Newer customers that cannot make their first payment upfront are unable to use our product.

Although customers may pay late fees, Afterpay caps its late fees (at the lower of \$68 or 25% of the purchase price) to ensure that customers are protected. Customers never pay interest. Although customers may potentially pay repeated late fees on multiple orders over time, our late fee cap ensures that the total amount of late fees paid never exceeds 25% of the amount being spent by the customer. Our research has shown the vulnerable customers benefit the most from using a product like Afterpay when compared with revolving credit products such as credit cards.

Afterpay requires all purchases to be paid off within four instalments, and does not allow customers to pay a fee [or pay interest] to extend the repayment period. This means that customers cannot revolve in debt when making purchases, and customers pay off their purchases over a short period of time.

Afterpay recognises that customers may experience financial hardship from time to time, and has a generous and highly accessible hardship program. We do not decline requests for hardship assistance and we provide customers that are experiencing hardship with a wide range of flexible payment options. Late fees are frozen for customers in hardship, and we do not require evidence from customers to support their hardship requests.

Afterpay does not enforce debts, and we do not participate in the credit reporting system. This means that customers do not experience the harm that can ordinarily arise (e.g. pressure to pay to avoid negative impacts on a credit score, aggressive debt collection practices, legal enforcement of debts) when they find themselves unable to meet their repayment obligations.

Because of these reasons, the Afterpay product is suitable for a wide range of consumers.

#### (a) Class of customers that fall within this target market

This product is designed for consumers who:

- Are seeking to pay for products and services on an instalment basis without payment of interest, account keeping or establishment fees and without the risk of entering into revolving debt.
- May not have an established credit history and may have other liabilities.
- Would benefit from a product with strong inbuilt controls which protect the customer, such as
  - Real-time risk decisioning i.e. orders are approved individually, rather than a customer being provided with an unrestricted spending limit.
  - Dynamic spending limits that start low, increase only with positive repayment behaviour and may decrease due to missed payments or other factors.
  - Protections to avoid excessive fees, with hard caps on late fees.
  - Restrictions on using the product when instalment payments are missed.
- Would benefit from a product which can function as a budgeting tool which provides them with the flexibility of paying by instalments via automatic direct debit from a debit card or credit card and has no hidden fees or costs associated with its use if instalments are paid on time.
- Would benefit from a product that is zero cost upfront or, if late fees happen to be paid, is low cost relative to other financial products that are available in the market.
- Would benefit from a product that does not result in merchants engaging in 'discretionary' pricing i.e. where a merchant will effectively inflate the price of their product or service to account for the use of a BNPL product.
  - Where, in rare cases, Afterpay does allow a merchant to charge more for the use of Afterpay, this will be done via a small capped surcharge (rather than non-transparent discretionary pricing).
- Would be comfortable with the ease and efficiency of using a digital-only product.

#### (b) Excluded class of customers

Afterpay may not be suitable for customers that are seeking functionality and flexibility that goes beyond what Afterpay supports. This product is not designed for customers who:

- Require a product with a large upfront spending limit.
- Require a product that enables unrestricted on-demand spending.
- Require a product for use at all categories of merchants.
- Require a product that enables them to pay down their purchase over a long period of time.
- Are not comfortable using digital-only services.
- Currently have a suspended or written off Afterpay account.

Afterpay's product may also not be suitable for customers who use a credit card as their repayment method and who incur repeated late fees as a result of repayments being

dishonoured by their credit card provider due to having an insufficient credit card limit (i.e. a credit card that is effectively 'maxxed out'). Customers in this situation may be more likely to be vulnerable, potentially increasing their overall liabilities and be using multiple products to manage a difficult financial situation. Afterpay puts in place measures to protect these customers (see below).

#### (c) Eligibility requirements and product attributes

The key eligibility requirements and product attributes of the Product are:

#### Eligibility requirements

- Customers must successfully complete the onboarding process by meeting the following conditions:
  - Be an individual over 18 years of age.
  - Be capable of entering into a legally binding contract.
  - Successfully verify their identity to the satisfaction of Afterpay.
  - Have a valid and verifiable email address and Australian mobile number.
  - Provide a valid delivery address in Australia.
  - Be able to pay 25% of an order amount immediately as the first instalment.
  - Be the holder of a valid and verified Australian-issued debit or credit card attached to the end-customer account.
- Customers must be able to access the product through digital means.
- Customers may not be onboarded if they have previously been an Afterpay customer.

#### Product attributes

- Pay in four instalments over six to eight weeks.
- No charging of interest, account keeping or establishment fees.
- Variable spending limit based on customer repayment history and capabilities and inability to spend over the set limit.
- Declining of further orders if a customer is one day overdue on a single instalment repayment.
- No charging of late fees when the customer pays on time.
- Capping of late fees.
- Freezing of late fees for customers who apply for hardship.

### 3. Consistency between target market and the Product

The product is consistent with the identified class of market due to the following key terms, features, attributes and controls:

- No charging of interest, account keeping or establishment fees.
- Provision of a variable spending limit based on customer repayment history and capabilities.
- No option provided to customers to pay extra fees or interest to delay their debt or payment

schedule.

- Hard system controls in place to:
  - Ensure customers complete the onboarding process before they can use the product.
  - Decline further order approvals if a customer is one day overdue on a single instalment repayment, thus preventing a debt spiral.
  - Minimise the financial impact of missed payments by capping late fees and freezing all late fees for customers who apply for hardship.
- Prevent spending over a specified amount.
- Preventing customers from spending on Afterpay when they are in arrears with Afterpay.
- Reducing customers' spending limits to as low as \$300 to significantly limit the potential harm that may arise from additional spending.
- Merchants are contractually prevented from inflating the cost of their products where Afterpay is used as the payment method, and Afterpay conducts monitoring to ensure that this contractual requirement is met. Afterpay also does not partner with merchants that are associated with a higher risk of discretionary pricing. Afterpay has also conducted research to confirm that the use of Afterpay by merchants and consumers does not result in higher prices for consumers because of the value that Afterpay generates for merchants.
- The product is a purely digital product.

For customers that exclusively use a credit card (rather than a debit card) with Afterpay and pay repeated late fees, Afterpay protects these customers by:

- Proactively offering hardship assistance; and
- Preventing them from continuing to spend on Afterpay.

Afterpay also conducts regular monitoring to identify:

- Whether there is a class of customers with common characteristics who regularly make hardship requests or incur late fees; and
- Merchants who have used Afterpay to engage in discretionary pricing.

## 4. Distribution conditions

#### (a) Class of customers that fall within this target market

The Product is distributed directly by Afterpay via online channels. Customers may obtain the product by:

- Downloading our smartphone application via the Apple or Google app stores.
- Accessing our website at www.afterpay.com and applying for the product.
- Seeing our product available for use at online merchants and applying for our product online via <u>www.afterpay.com</u> (note: merchants do not play a role in distributing the Afterpay product or assisting customers to apply for the product).

Although consumers may see Afterpay available for use at physical retail stores, consumers must still apply online (via our app or website) to use our product. Sales staff within retail stores do not assist consumers in obtaining the Afterpay product.

#### (b) Adequacy of distribution conditions and restrictions

Afterpay only distributes its product online and uses a standardised process for onboarding customers. This control helps ensure that consumers that obtain the product are in the target market.

Further, the product's marketing does not deliberately target customers outside the eligibility criteria (such as those under the age of 18 and those outside Australia) which assists in ensuring the distribution is being directed towards the target market for whom the Product has been designed.

## 5. Review triggers

We will review this TMD in accordance with the below:

e TMD is no longer and a review of the TMD is ution of the product. de the target market. media coverage or e, including, but not limited complaints relating to:  ustomer has paid on time with us. over their set spending oduct before completion of ver their set spending limit. if they have an overdue while they are in a hardship paying late fees over the

Where a review trigger has occurred, this target market determination will be reviewed within 10 business days.