We recently set up a PayPal account for donations here at Leland. It went smoothly and we are happy with it. You give PayPal bank account information where you want the money deposited and then they send you an email when someone has made a donation. You then log into your PayPal account and transfer the money to your bank (or let it build up and then transfer it). They also provide the “donate” button to put on your website. If you have a Plinkit website there is a video available that shows how to put the button onto your site. Mark Morton Technical Services Librarian Leland Township Library

Hi Amy, We use Paypal, but sparingly. We accept credit cards at the library, and accept donations over the phone that way. Paypal takes a bigger chunk of the transaction, and it's another thing to keep *track of. ~Bruce @ Peter White Public LibraryBruce* A. MacDonald Assistant Director / Head of Circulation Peter White Public LibraryMarquette, Michigan

We have paypal hooked up and it’s been used twice.  Still trying to figure out how to get the money though!  I’m not the one who set it up – so can’t tell you much more. See: Hudsonville.org/library     “Donate now”

We do not do this.  We only accept credit cards, cash and checks from people actually standing in the Library.  Sorry I could not help. Ann Eau Claire District Library

We use PayPal and have gotten some donations that way.  The only problem is that it is nearly impossible to get rid of a PayPal account.  Our former director tried to suspend ours before he left because he could not change the name over to mine, and the account never deactivated.  I've had similar experiences with my personal PayPal account. -Kat Boyer

Hastings uses PayPal successfully – we do not get many donations yet but the fee is 2.9% and .25 per transaction.  We also can use the PayPal account to sell random surplus library stuff and accept payment for the same fees. Evelyn Holzwarth Library Administrator Hastings Public Library 227 E State St Hastings, MI 49058

Amy -

Brighton has been doing online payments resources for gifts and donations for some time.

1) Sarah Neidert (tech nuts and bolts - she changed our vendor from what Joy had originally set up),

2 )Sandie Schulenburg (circ supervisor - her staff can be the first encounter for some people who want to give that way ... and she runs all of the Square stuff and the Booked fundraiser electronic cash payments),

3) Diana Dart (community relations person who has long experience with online donations from her thank you point of view), and

4) me (who happens to be the account name holder, sometimes, but has little to do with the process but sign the thank yous.)

Interesting comment from long-time online donor - when Sarah changed the vendor, the whole front end script, which Joy and Melanie had created, if I remember, had to be changed.  His favorite giving option, the 200 and 400 which used to be the maximum allowed under the old Michigan tax credit for contributions to government agencies rules, doesn't show as a choice on our strictly retail Square model.  Sarah is going to change that Square model to incorporate the amount that our donor wants to be able to select with a click, rather than having to type in separately.  Make it easy on the donor, eh what??

As Nancy noted above, we use Square in the building as our cash register, and [squareup.com](http://squareup.com) online (it's integrated with the square app and dashboard, so no additional set up or fees.). While I'm very happy with Square as a cash register, I'd say the online donations portion is the one spot I do NOT feel perfectly fits our needs.  It's set up for online retail, not donations.  So, one cannot simply enter the amount they would like to donate and be done with it.  They have to select from a dropdown list of our making, and then "check out" their cart like they are buying something.  Staff then have a certain number of days to "fulfill" their order (again, it's set up for buying things), which  is just clicking a button on the back end.

If you already accept credit cards in the building with another solution, I would not recommend Square for this purpose.  If you don't, and need something that does both, it's a good enough fit. Sarah Brighton District Library

