A Day in the Life of Mobile Payments

Boston, Massachusetts

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For many consumers, the thought of mobile payments and mobile wallets may seem abstract and daunting. In reality, mobile payments and mobile wallets are more accessible and easier to use than you imagine. This vignette illustrates the convenience and utility afforded by a variety of currently available mobile payment and mobile wallet applications (apps) for everyday payments in the Boston area.

The mobile apps use different types of technologies, including QR codes and near field communication (NFC), and can be used for various purposes, such as payment for food, beverages and other goods and services; ticketing for transit, airlines, movies, and sporting events; aggregation of loyalty programs; and easier tracking and redemption of rewards points, among other uses.

View how members of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston’s Payment Strategies team use their mobile phones to make purchases and reap the benefits of mobile payments at actual venues around Boston.

See which of your favorite local retailers accepts mobile payments and how you too can get through your day with greater efficiency and convenience by paying with your mobile phone.
Parking at commuter rail station

Paying for parking and remembering where you parked is easy!
Taking the commuter rail

Paying for commuting is a breeze – no more tickets or paying with cash on the train.
Pay your rent and car insurance while you commute in to work!
Coffee and donuts for breakfast

Need caffeine to start your day?
Use your smartphone to pay for breakfast and save money with special offers
Collecting contributions for co-worker’s party

Easily contribute to your colleague’s birthday party by sending money using your smartphone...

...and deposit contribution checks using your bank’s mobile banking app.
Paying for lunch with LevelUp

Not sure what to have for lunch? Use your smartphone to find a restaurant or food truck, pay for food, add a tip, or redeem a coupon.
Many merchants at farmers market now accepting card payments

Even small vendors accept mobile payments. No cash for the farmers market? No problem!
Loyalty, coupons, Rx refills, tap-and-pay

Need a few things from CVS? You can use CVS’s mobile app or Google Wallet to pay and redeem coupons.
Afternoon coffee...

Need an afternoon pick-me-up? Collect rewards at Starbucks for your loyalty and afternoon cup of Joe.
...or smoothie...

Not in the mood for caffeine? Tap and pay for your smoothie at Jamba Juice and receive special offers with Isis Mobile Wallet®.
... and some cookies

Pay with your name using Square Wallet

Want a treat with your drink? Cookie Monstah food truck and the Girl Scouts have strategically set up shop close to your office.
Your favorite stores offer coupons and loyalty rewards through mobile platforms.
Pay for purchases anywhere in the store with mobile POS

Time to skip the line. Mobile point-of-sale payments allow you to get in and get out with no waiting.
Getting gas on drive home

Use your smartphone to pay for gas at the pump with your checking account and get a discount (very important with gas prices on the rise!)
Picking up supplies for home improvement

Forget your phone in the car? No worries, you can enter your phone number and PIN at checkout to pay for your nails, paint, and drywall.
Cabbing it to a night on the town ...

Use your smartphone to hail and pay for a cab, no need to worry about cash or swiping a card. GPS on your phone can help the driver locate where to pick you up.
Splitting bar tab

Use your smartphone to settle the bill from your table without waiting for the server to return, and no hassles splitting the tab with credit cards.
Skip the lines, order ahead and just pick-up

Order your favorite burger ahead of time … no line, no waiting, no fuss … your burger awaits!
Catch a movie ...

No lines, no waiting ... purchase your movie tickets ahead of time with your smartphone, and never worry about a screening selling out!
...or root for the home team

Head to the stadium for a game. No paper tickets needed, just your phone.
Mobile boarding passes for weekend out-of-town

No need to sift through pockets to find your boarding pass...check in for your flight with your smartphone and be on your way!
Your smartphone...a modern Swiss Army knife!

For more, visit Payment Strategies online:
http://www.bostonfed.org/bankinfo/payment-strategies/index.htm