Mastercard Inc / MA

Equity | Generated Sep 28, 2026 11:32 PM EDT

Current price	Daily move	Bid / Ask	Previous close
$568.28	**+0.63 +0.11%**	**$552.50/$575.64**	**$567.65**

Market	**NYSE**
Industry	**Financial Services**
Market data as of	**Sep 28, 2026 11:32 PM EDT**

JW Intelligence Report

Complete | 3 of 3 sections | Sep 28, 2026 7:50 PM EDT

JW Rank	Rank label	Confidence	IV percentile
69.9 / 100	**Constructive**	**high**	**35 / 100**

Model reference	Upside scenario	Risk reference	Wheel strategy fit
$558.00	**$580.00**	**$548.00**	**78 / 100**

Options stance	**neutral**
Tail-risk safety	**64 / 100**
JW Rank data coverage / as of	**100.0% | Sep 28, 2026 7:50 PM EDT**

Key insight

MA Option Market Implies Range-Bound Trade Ahead of Earnings

Market read

The MA option market suggests a range-bound trade in the near term, with implied volatility reflecting uncertainty ahead of the October 29th earnings release. While the stock is technically bullish, options pricing indicates a cautious approach as investors await further clarity on growth prospects and potential risks.

Strategy context

MA's option market reflects a cautious outlook ahead of earnings. Investors are pricing in potential volatility but lack conviction on a clear directional bias.

JW AI conclusions

Short- and medium-term model interpretation

AI context bias	**Mixed**
AI analysis updated	**Sep 28, 2026 1:53 PM EDT**

Short-term scenario

Neutral, with a tactical long only on a dip toward recent support—not a chase at $568.45. 1-3 week bias is range-bound while $553 holds; momentum is not confirmed. Uncertainty is high: indicators conflict across vendors, volume conviction looks modest, and positioning can reverse into the Oct 29 earnings date, which sits just beyond this window. Not a recommendation to buy or sell.

Three-month outlook

Base case is modestly constructive: a path toward roughly $600-$630 is plausible if the Oct 29 report confirms high-end low-double-digit growth and value-added services momentum, and if AI/agentic and stablecoin headlines stay supportive. Street means near $667 are 12-month consensus figures, not a 3-month forecast, and the multiple is already premium. Downside case is a retest of about $530-$550 (near the 200-day) on a guidance miss, weaker consumer or cross-border volumes, FX/rebate pressure, or fee-regulation headlines. Uncertainty is material: spend, incentives, litigation, and the earnings reaction are not knowable from current data. This is analysis, not advice.

Market sentiment

X discussion is thin and mixed, so the sentiment signal is weak. Longer-term holders treat $MA as a core compounder with Visa, citing agentic-commerce protocols and stablecoin settlement as structural positives, and some say it is still worth holding but not an aggressive add on valuation. Skeptics argue the stock is nearer highs into the Oct 29 earnings window and that a more conservative value is closer to $550, with late buyers at risk. One chart note flagged a possible daily rounding top. No broad, high-engagement bullish or bearish consensus was visible in the latest posts.

Supporting evidence

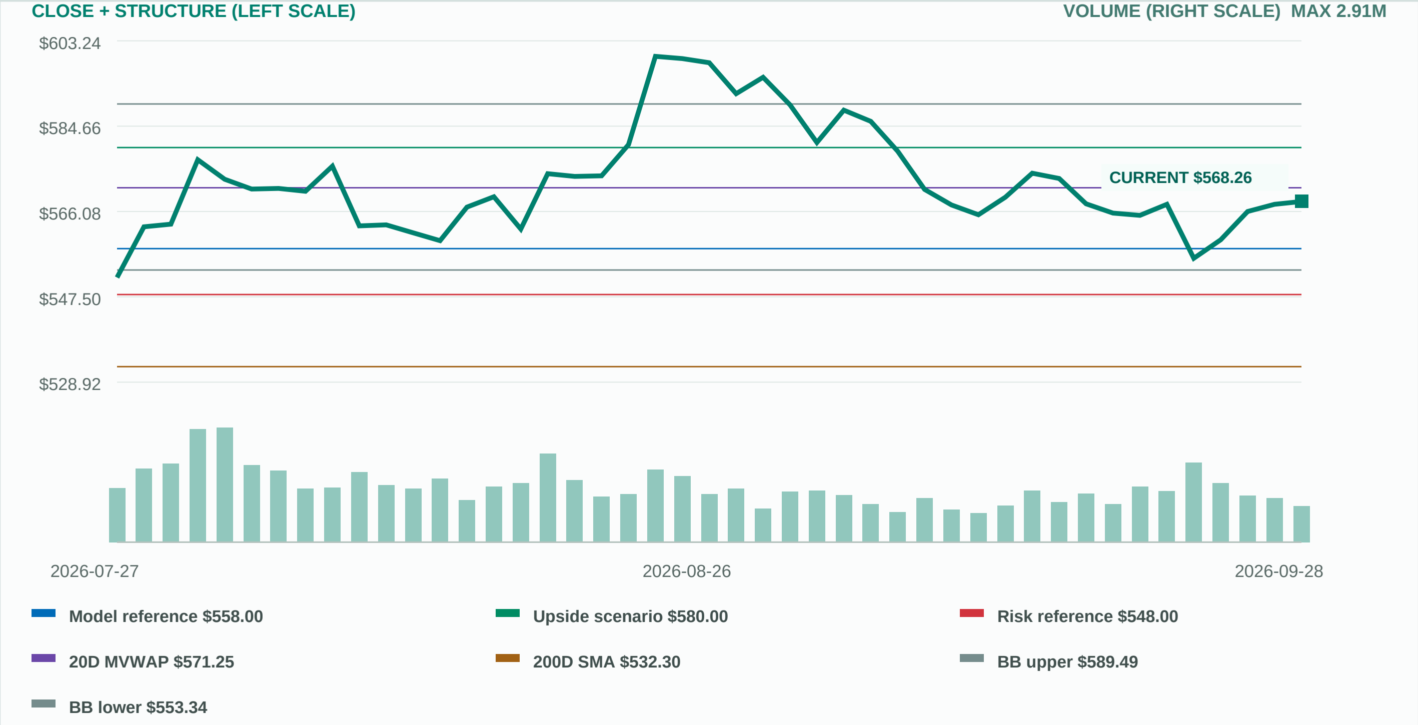
Implied volatility is elevated at 22.95%, suggesting market anticipation for potentially significant price swings around the earnings event. | The term structure of implied volatility exhibits backwardation, with near-term options more expensive than those further out, indicating a higher probability of short-term volatility. | Skew is balanced, implying neutral sentiment towards potential upside and downside moves.

Risk watch

Earnings report could trigger significant price swings, with both upside and downside risks depending on the company's performance and guidance.

Enhanced price structure

45 trading days with volume, model levels and current technical reference bands



45 complete trading-session observations

JW Rank factors

Score, source coverage and interpretation for each decision factor

JW RANK FACTOR PROFILE	COVERAGE	0 – 50 – 100
Liquidity	100.0%	83.2
Strategy Fit	100.0%	78.0
Technical Trend	100.0%	64.1
Market Tail Risk	100.0%	63.8
Fundamental Quality	100.0%	77.2
Volatility Pressure	100.0%	65.4

Decision summary

Primary model reads before the detailed indicator appendix

Momentum	Institutional flow	Structure	Volatility
bullish_recovery	**Below MVWAP**	**Above 200D trend**	**low**

Decision indicators

Detailed momentum, institutional and structural observations

Momentum kinematics

Direction, velocity and oscillator state

Current read	**BULLISH RECOVERY | neutral | MACD accelerating**
Trend signal	**BULLISH RECOVERY**
RSI signal	**neutral**
RSI (7 / 14 / 21)	**50.98 / 49.12 / 51.19**
RSI velocity	**2.33**
MACD line / signal / histogram	**-1.87 / - / -0.68**
MACD acceleration	**0.16**
Stochastic K / D	**52.15 / 37.40**

Institutional footprints

Volume-weighted cost, price location and flow

Current read	**Below institutional MVWAP | Distribution bias**
Institutional flow	**-1.39**
20-day MVWAP	**$571.25**
Price vs 20-day MVWAP	**-0.52%**
Daily reference VWAP	**$567.11**
Price vs daily reference	**+0.21%**
Volume	**916.82K**

Structural context

Long-term trend and volatility boundaries

Current read	**Above 200-day trend | Negative macro velocity**
Macro velocity	**-1.39**
20-day / 200-day SMA	**$571.41 / $532.30**
Bollinger range	**$553.34 - $589.49**
Bollinger position	**0.413**

Options and volatility intelligence

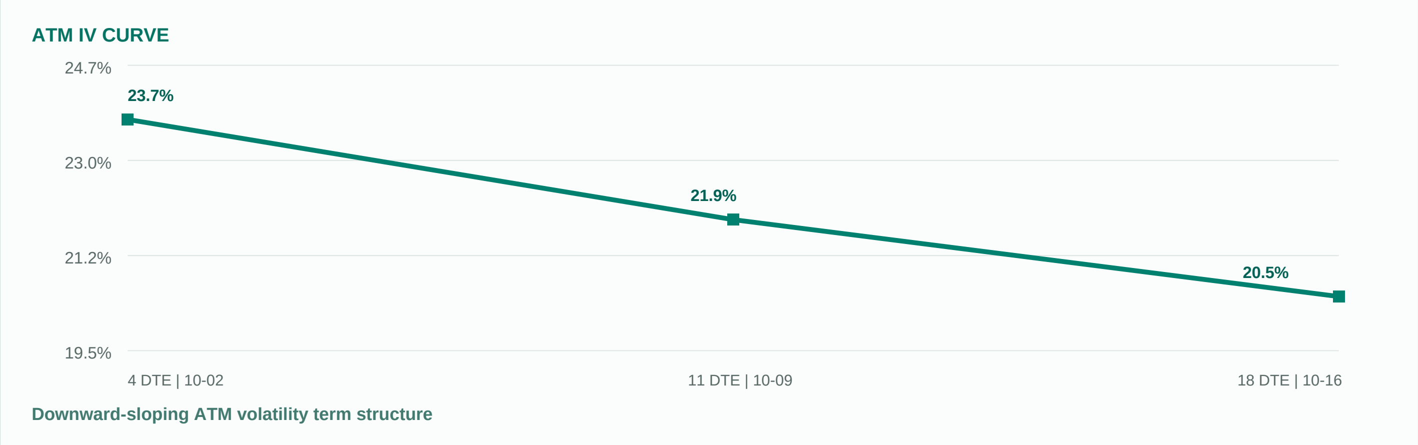
Structure, premium conditions and principal risks

IV rank	IV percentile	VVIX	SKEW
43 / 100	35 / 100	90.44	144.91

Market regime	**Calm**
Tail-risk regime	**NORMAL TAIL RISK**
Term structure	**backwardation**
Term slope	**-3.27 pts**
Skew read	**balanced**
Liquidity / quote coverage	**100.0%**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 28, 2026 2:38 PM EDT**
Options data quality	**Coverage 88.9%**

Option term structure

ATM implied-volatility curve by days to expiration



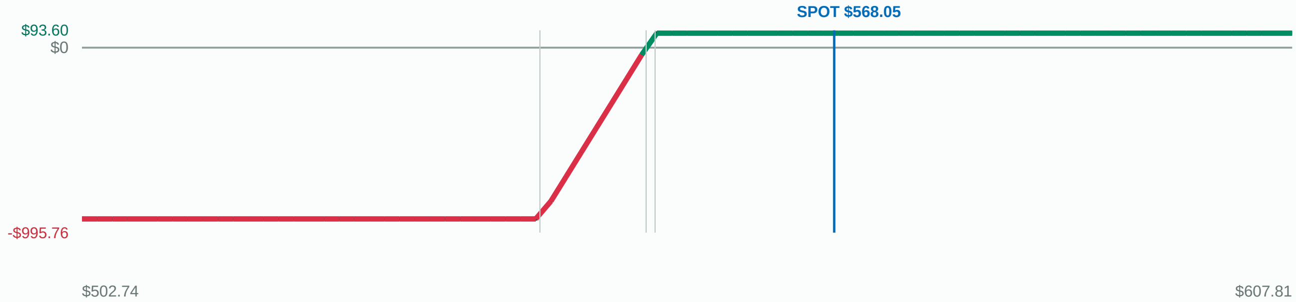
EXPIRATION	DTE	ATM IV	STATE
2026-10-02	4	23.7%	-
2026-10-09	11	21.9%	-
2026-10-16	18	20.5%	-

Reference spread payoff

Illustrative expiry profit/loss per one-lot structure, including quoted net credit

Bull Put Spread reference

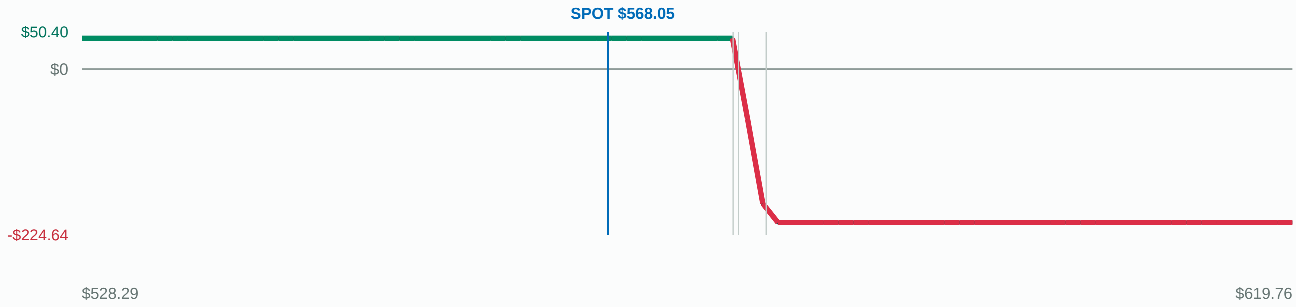
Short $552.50 | Long $542.50 | Width $10.00 | Net credit $0.78



Max profit $78.00 | Max loss -$922.00 | Break-even $551.72 | Per contract at expiry

Bear Call Spread reference

Short $577.50 | Long $580.00 | Width $2.50 | Net credit $0.42



Max profit $42.00 | Max loss -$208.00 | Break-even $577.92 | Per contract at expiry

Event and tail-risk context

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

Next earnings date	**2026-10-29**
Earnings IV-crush risk	**NOT MEASURED**
VIX	**15.90**
VVIX	**90.44**
SKEW index	**144.91**
Observation confidence	**high**
Option quote quality	**reliable**
Contracts observed	**131**

Event and tail-risk context (continued)

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

FIELD	VALUE
Contracts with quotes	**131**

Strategy fit

Generalized structure fit; not a personalized recommendation

Market structure

The MA option market suggests a range-bound trade in the near term, with implied volatility reflecting uncertainty ahead of the October 29th earnings release. While the stock is technically bullish, options pricing indicates a cautious approach as investors await further clarity on growth prospects and potential risks.

Options context

MA Option Market Implies Range-Bound Trade Ahead of Earnings

Wheel context

MA's option market reflects a cautious outlook ahead of earnings. Investors are pricing in potential volatility but lack conviction on a clear directional bias.

Observed evidence

Implied volatility is elevated at 22.95%, suggesting market anticipation for potentially significant price swings around the earnings event. | The term structure of implied volatility exhibits backwardation, with near-term options more expensive than those further out, indicating a higher probability of short-term volatility. | Skew is balanced, implying neutral sentiment towards potential upside and downside moves.

Principal risks to monitor

Earnings report could trigger significant price swings, with both upside and downside risks depending on the company's performance and guidance.

Fundamentals and events

Business quality, valuation and upcoming event context

Market capitalization **$497.27B**	P/E (TTM) **30.59**
ROE **232.5%**	Revenue growth **13.8%**
EPS growth **17.3%**	Operating margin **58.3%**
Net profit margin **46.3%**	Gross margin **-**
Free cash flow CAGR **20.3%**	Debt / equity **2.46**
Dividend yield **0.6%**	Beta **0.81**
52-week range **$464.52 - $601.23**	

Company or fund profile

Issuer identity and classification

Name **Mastercard Inc**	Market **NYSE**
Industry **Financial Services**	Country **US**
Currency **USD**	IPO date **2006-05-25**
Shares outstanding **883.58M**	52-week return **0.1%**
Book value per share **$6.39**	Revenue per share **$39.73**

Website	**mastercard.us**

Latest strategy observation

Most recent shared general market signal available when this report was generated

MA Covered Call signal

Sep 28, 2026 2:00 PM EDT

Covered Call | 2026-10-02

At signal $568.47 | Current $568.28

SHORT **Option $565.00 B $7.50 / A $8.60**

High turnover | CR $8.05

Complete technical details

Full supporting indicator set used by the symbol detail experience

Volatility and options market

Price movement and premium conditions

ATR	**$9.07**
ATR as % of price	**1.6%**
Volatility environment	**low**
Current IV	**23.0%**
IV rank	**44 / 100**
IV percentile	**35 / 100**
Technical Snapshot IV source	**Private fundamentals snapshot**
Technical Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 28, 2026 3:50 PM EDT**

Technical health and risk radar

Derived indicator health and event context

Overall health	**85 / 100**
Trend health	**78 / 100**
Momentum health	**89 / 100**
Volatility health	**86 / 100**
Structure health	**91 / 100**
Earnings risk / date	**low | 2026-10-29**
Macro risk	**unknown**
Volatility risk	**low**
Structure risk	**low**

Structural indicator levels

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

SMA (20 / 50 / 200)	**$571.41 / $569.32 / $532.30**
EMA (9 / 21)	**$566.55 / $569.41**
Bollinger upper / middle / lower	**$589.49 / $571.41 / $553.34**

Structural indicator levels (continued)

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

FIELD	VALUE
Bollinger %B	**0.413**
True high / low	**$569.57 / $563.50**
5-day true high / low	**$571.35 / $553.11**

Three-day indicator history

Short-horizon change and the underlying three-session observations

INDICATOR	3-DAY CHANGE	SESSION 1 / 2 / 3
SMA20	-1.392	**-**
SMA50	0.478	**-**
MVWAP20	-1.395	**-**
MACD	0.161	**-**
RSI	2.326	**-**
Volume	-192495.670	**-**
ATR	-0.175	**-**
T1	-	**-2.09 / 572.30 / 568.78 / 562.29**
T2	-	**-2.29 / 573.70 / 568.18 / 559.68**
T3	-	**-2.35 / 575.43 / 565.75 / 554.00**

Detailed options evidence

Supporting option-chain, execution and data-quality observations

Underlying price at observation	**$568.05**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Sep 28, 2026 2:38 PM EDT**
Options data coverage	**88.9%**
SKEW regime	**HIGH TAIL RISK SKEW**
VVIX regime	**VVIX FLAT**
Front expiration / DTE	**2026-10-02 | 4 DTE**
Front at-the-money IV	**23.7%**
25-delta skew	**2.32**
Put / Call 25-delta	**$552.50 / $577.50 Delta 0.264**
Median option bid/ask spread	**24.5%**
Bid/ask spread	**-**
Contracts observed / quoted	**131 / 131**

Price context

Last Price: 568.05 | Bid: 567.91 | Ask: 568.10 | Previous Close: 567.65 | Change: 0.40 | Daily change: 0.07% | Update Time: 2026-09-28T14:38:41.994779-04:00 | Latest History Date: 2026-09-28 | Latest History Price: 568.05

Historical context

Trading-day sample: 60 sessions | First Date: 2026-07-06 | Latest Date: 2026-09-28 | Latest Price: 568.05 | Max Drawdown 60d Percent: -7.33%

Fundamental context

Current Iv Percent: 22.95% | Iv Rank: 43.15 | Iv Percentile: 35.46 | Next Earnings Date: 2026-10-29 | Ex Dividend Date: 2026-07-08

Important disclosures

Scope, limitations, risk and permitted interpretation

General market information only

This report is general quantitative research and market commentary. It is not investment, legal, tax or accounting advice; it is not an offer, solicitation, order, recommendation or promise of performance. It does not consider any reader's holdings, objectives, financial circumstances, risk tolerance or suitability.

Model observations - not instructions

JW Rank, strategy fit, model reference, upside scenario and risk reference levels are model observations. They are not entries, price targets, stops, position sizes or instructions to buy, sell, open, close or hold a security or option. A higher score does not imply lower risk or a guaranteed favorable outcome.

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Prices, volumes, fundamentals, options data, news-derived context and model outputs reflect the timestamps shown and may be delayed, incomplete, revised or inaccurate. AI-generated explanations can omit context or produce errors. Models can fail when volatility, liquidity, correlations or market regimes change.

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Options risk

Options are complex and are not suitable for all investors. They may involve total or substantial loss, assignment, early exercise, margin calls, liquidity and spread risk, volatility and Greek exposure, event risk, regime shifts and expiration risk. Multi-leg positions may not execute or close at modeled prices.

Investor responsibility and ODD

Use current market information, assess suitability independently and consult qualified professionals when appropriate. Before trading listed options, read Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options (ODD) available from the Options Clearing Corporation at theocc.com.

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Reference documents

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