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The time for waiting in long queues for rail booking is long gone. You donâ€™t need to waste your precious time in getting through hordes of people to get rail booking. You also donâ€™t need to book your rail tickets through travel agents. Travel agents charge commission and as such tickets get expensive than usual. Indian railways have very well integrated online system where you can book rail tickets in a matter of few minutes. All you need is credit/ debit cards or net banking to make the payment and you can get tickets delivered to your shipping address. Alternatively, you can take print out of ticket or carry ticket in electronic format as well. Rail booking process is briefly described below:

-For Online Users: Register on website by furnishing some personal details and you will have user name and password for all future transactions. Search for the trains to the destination you want to travel to. You need to choose your location, destination and dates of travel, class, quota etc. You will be displayed a list of trains travelling to your destination. After choosing the train, you can get fare by selecting a train and clicking on check fare. Select the train and provide passenger details like name, age, and berth preference of each passenger. Senior citizens can avail discount on fare which is around 30%-40% but need to show age proof when boarding train. You will now be asked to make payment. There are multiple payment options available including credit cards, credit card EMI option, cash cards etc. If you have chose i-ticket, tickets will be delivered to the shipping address. If you have chosen e-ticket, take a printout of electronic reservation slip and keep it with you when you board train. Do carry some identification papers (PAN card, Driving license) as it is required by railway authorities when you travel.

-For Mobile Users: Visit the portal https://www.irctc.co.in/mobile. Log in with registered account and you will see option- book tickets. Choose source and final station, travel date, class (AC-3 tier, AC-2 tier, 1st AC, AC Chair Car and Executive Classes etc), quota (general, tatkal, and ladies) and ticket type (eticket or iticket). The available trains on the chosen route will be shown. Select the desired train, add passenger details and confirm the booking. Final quote with details will be shown. Move to the payment gateway and use credit/debit card to make the train booking.

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