# Balloon Loans in CU\*BASE



Understanding balloon loans and how to book them in CU\*BASE

### INTRODUCTION

In this booklet, you will learn how to book a balloon loan in CU\*BASE. A balloon loan is a loan with low monthly payments followed by a large final payment to repay the remaining balance at the end of the term (referred to as a "balloon" payment.)

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### **LENDING RESOURCE GUIDES**

Be sure to check out these lending companion guides to learn more about lending and loans!

- <u>Big-Picture Planning for Your Loan Configurations: What to Consider</u> When Setting Up Your Lending Codes and Configurations
- Escrow Processing with CU\*BASE
- Interest Payment Only Loans (CU\*BASE Mortgage Products)
- Lease Loan Tools
- Loan Interest Calculation: 360/365 Daily Interest
- Mortgage Products: 360-Day Interest Calculation
- Mortgage Products: Data Capture for Mortgage Closing Forms
- Variable Rate Loan Products

All these booklets can be found posted on the CU\*Answers Reference Page: <a href="http://www.cuanswers.com/resources/doc/cubase-reference/">http://www.cuanswers.com/resources/doc/cubase-reference/</a>

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### What is a balloon loan and how does it work?

A balloon loan is a short-term loan that does not fully amortize over its term. Payments are either interest-only or a mix of mainly interest and some principal for a set number of payments. The remainder of the loan is due as the final payment, the "balloon," as it is generally larger than the monthly amount.

### What is the most common use of balloon loans?

Mortgage loans are most-commonly associated with balloon payments. Balloon mortgages typically have short terms ranging from five to seven years. However, the monthly payments through this short term will not cover the entire loan payment. Instead, the monthly payments are calculated as if the loan is a traditional 30-year mortgage.

### Why might my members be interested in Balloon loans?

For some members, a balloon loan has clear advantages:

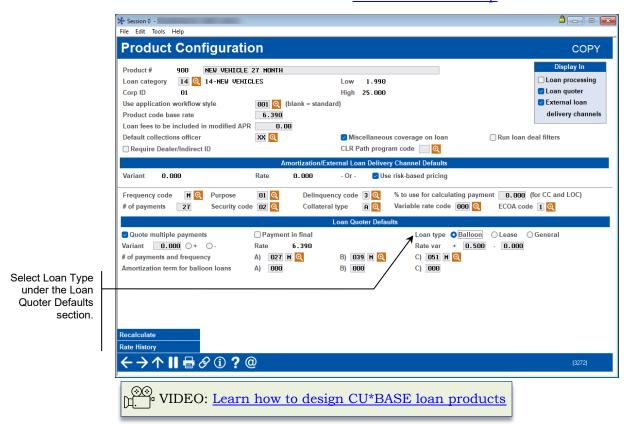
- Lower monthly payments that a traditional amortized loan, because very little of the principal is being repaid; this may permit an individual to borrow more than they otherwise could.
- Not feeling the full impact of high interest rates because, as noted above, the payment is reduced, given the limited pay down of principal.

### Can you book a balloon loan in CU\*BASE that has annual payments?

No, the only payment frequency on a balloon loan is monthly ("M").

## How to Simplify the Balloon Loan Application Process

To simplify the application process as well as future loan performance tracking, you may wish to build a specific loan product for balloon loans. The process to build these products is the same as any loan product. When viewing the product configuration screen in **Tool #470** *Loan Product Configuration*, you can specify the loan type under the Loan Quoter Defaults section. This selection will ensure that the loan application always defaults to a balloon. Learn more in <a href="CU\*BASE Online Help">CU\*BASE Online Help</a>.



# BOOKING BALLOON LOANS IN CU\*BASE

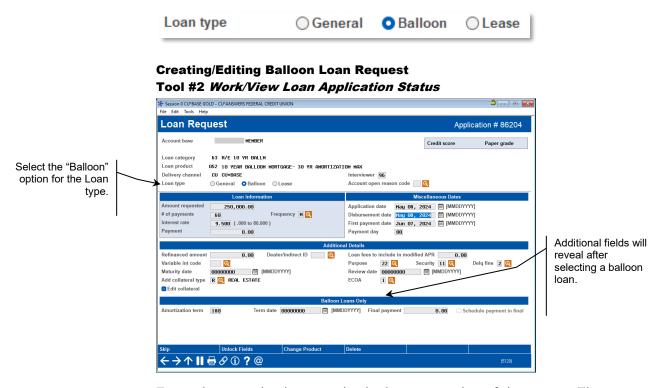
Booking a balloon loan in CU\*BASE is as easy as any other loan product. Before you get started, always review the loan queue to ensure the request is not already in process.

You can start by using **Tool #2** *Work/View Loan Application Status* and entering the member's account base, along with the loan request action code and loan product code.



### **BALLOON INDICATOR**

Loans can be flagged as a balloon loan using the Balloon Indicator flag, available on the Loan Information screen when creating a loan request.



Enter the amortization term in the bottom section of the screen. The system expects this loan to amortize over a longer period than the number of payments, when entered this term must be greater than the # of payments listed in the **Loan Information** section of the screen. Leave the term date and final payment blank; using the enter key will calculate and fill these fields automatically.

#### Field Descriptions (Balloon Loans Only)

Field Name	Description
Amortization term	Enter the number of payments to be used when calculating the amortization for this loan. This number must be higher than the <i>Number of payments</i> figure.

Field Name	Description
	Example: A member has a balloon loan for a 48-month term but will be making 24 payments. The number of payments field would read "24" and the Amortization term field would read "48."
Amort term date	This field shows the date that the final payment would be due if the loan were not paid off on the <i>Maturity date</i> . Because balloon loans are due on the <i>Maturity date</i> , this field is shown primarily as a reference as to how the amortization was calculated. The system will automatically compute this date using the term entered in the <i>Amortization term</i> field.
	• Example: A member has a balloon loan for a 48-month term but will be making 24 payments. The <i>Maturity date</i> field shows the date the final payment is due, 24 months out. The <i>Amort term date</i> field shows the date at the end of the 48-month term used to calculate the amortization.
Final payment	The amount of the final balloon payment. This field is calculated automatically on the loan request recap screen.
Schedule payment in final	This flag indicates that the balloon payment should be considered as the final payment on the loan. This setting cannot be changed. In other words, if the member is making 24 payments, the amortization program assumes the balloon payment is being made on the 24th payment.

### **LOAN REQUEST RECAP SCREEN**

The loan request recap screen will present information such as the amortization term date and final payment amount.

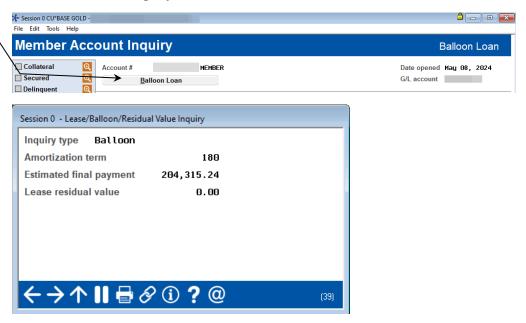


HINT: If necessary, you may use Edit Loan (F2) to return to the Loan Request screen, make any desired changes, and use Enter to recalculate and display a new recap.

### How to View Balloon Loan Details in CU\*BASE

Once the loan is booked, you may click the *balloon loan* button on the Member Account Inquiry screen for the booked loan.

Click this button to view loan information; this includes term and estimated final payment.



The **Lease/Balloon/Residual Value Inquiry** screen (pictured above) displays information about the balloon loan. This screen will show the amortization term and estimated final payment from when the loan request was originally set up. These values are stored for information only; you can adjust the values in these fields manually via **Tool #20** *Update Account Information*