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GS1 barcodes

Barcodes are symbols that can be scanned electronically using laser or camera-base systems.

They are used to encode information such as product numbers, serial numbers and batch numbers. Barcodes play a key role in supply chains, enabling parties like retailers, manufacturers, transport providers and hospitals to automatically identify and track products as they move through the supply chain.

GS1 manages several types of barcodes. Each is designed for use in a different situation.

EAN/UPC family

Instantly recognisable 1D barcodes used in retail all over the world.

See details> (</barcodes/ean-upc>)

DataBar family

Compact 1D barcodes that can hold additional product attributes such as the weight of fresh foods.

See details> (</barcodes/databar>)

One-dimensional (1D) barcodes used exclusively in general distribution and logistics

Versatile 1D barcodes used to represent ID keys and attributes in a distribution environment.

See details> (</barcodes/1d-general-distribution>)

Two-dimensional (2D) barcodes

Compact, high-capacity 2D symbols suitable for representing all GS1 keys

and attributes. For more information, see our **Privacy Policy**

(</privacy-policy>).

New: GS1 recommends scanners with imaging-based capabilities (/sites/default/files/docs/barcodes/2d_position_paper_release13feb_002.pdf)

[See details> \(/barcodes/2d\)](/barcodes/2d)

Ever wondered what the GS1 barcode has done for you?



Need a barcode?

Working with GS1, you can rest assured that your barcodes and unique numbers will be accepted by major retailers and distributors all over the world.

Get a GS1 barcode (<https://www.gs1.org/need-gs1-barcode>)

Videos

Benefits of a barcode - in 90 seconds (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVaJkgauxwE>)

GS1 AIDC Test Lab: Enhancing the quality of GS1 barcodes (<http://youtu.be/rfjmFLv1d88>)

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For more information, see our [Privacy Policy \(/privacy-policy\)](/privacy-policy).
Ever Wondered what the GS1 bar code has done for you?
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XJa3_ExVFPE)

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Find out more

Barcodes overview (/docs/barcodes/GS1_Barcodes_Fact_Sheet-overview_of_all_GS1_barcodes.pdf)

Scanner environment & Printing Methods (/docs/barcodes/GS1_Barcodes_Fact_Sheet-Scanner_enviroments_and_printing_methods.pdf)

Ten steps to barcodes implementation (/ten-steps-gs1-barcode-implementation)

Using 2D symbols in distribution and logistics (/sites/default/files/docs/barcodes/2D_symbols_distribution_and_logistics_position_papers.pdf)

GS1 Application Identifier browser (http://www.gs1.org/standards/barcodes/application-identifiers)

Interoperability of Barcodes, EPCIS & RFID (https://www.gs1.org/gcp-length)

IoT (Internet of Things) (https://www.gs1.org/standards/internet-of-things)

FAQ's

FAQs on barcodes (http://xchange.gs1.org/sites/faq/Pages/topic.aspx?t=Barcodes)

Standards (/standards)

Need a barcode (https://www.gs1.org/need-gs1-barcode)

All GS1 standards (https://www.gs1.org/standards)

General Specifications (https://www.gs1.org/standards-general-specifications)

News & Events

(https://www.gs1.org/news-events)
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News (https://www.gs1.org/news-archive)

Services (/)

GDSN (https://www.gs1.org/services/gdsn)

Who owns this barcode? (http://gepir.gs1.org/)

Check digit calculator (https://www.gs1.org/check-digit-calculator)

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Foodservice (https://www.gs1.org/foodservice)
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Humanitarian logistics
(<https://www.gs1.org/humanitarian-logistics>)

Events (<https://www.gs1.org/events-calendar>)

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(<https://www.gs1.org/how-we-got-here>)




Public Policy ([/public-policy](#))

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