Q-UPID MANUFACTURER ADOPTION PACK

COMPLETELY FREE

Get your first Q-UPID. It costs nothing.

A Q-UPID is the permanent code for one of your parts. Getting it is free, keeping it is free and printing it is free. This guide shows how to get one and put it on your parts, packaging and data.

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4
Tell us your parts	**We issue your codes**	**Print the code**	**Anyone can scan it**
Send your manufacturer name and part numbers, as you print them. Use the template in this pack.	One manufacturer and one part number is one Q-UPID. Allocation is free.	On labels, packaging and datasheets. Colour or black and white.	A phone camera opens the live record on q-upid.com. No app.

What is free

There is no fee for a Q-UPID, none to keep it and none to print it. Looking a code up, by scan or API, is free. Charges apply only to optional help and data tools, never to the code.

Where to put it

The Q-UPID sits alongside your own part number and any barcode you already print. It replaces none of them.

- **On the part or its label,** next to the part number.
- **On unit packaging and cartons,** beside your existing barcode, on a flat area away from folds, seams and tape.
- **On datasheets and catalogue pages,** as the 2D code and as text.
- **In your part data:** add one field, such as `q_upid`, to your catalogue, ERP export and data feeds.
- **On your website,** on each part page, linked to its record on q-upid.com.

Always print the code as text as well. The check character catches a mistyped one.

How big should the code be?

Sizes are for the whole artwork, measured across its outer frame. Scale in proportion; never stretch or crop.

SIZE	ARTWORK WIDTH	SMALLEST DOT	SCANNABLE SYMBOL	READS FROM ABOUT	USE IT FOR
Minimum	30 mm	0.35 mm	10 mm	10 cm	Small parts and labels, flat matte surfaces, good printers only
Recommended	40 mm	0.47 mm	14 mm	14 cm	Unit packaging, part labels, datasheets
Easy	60 mm	0.70 mm	20 mm	20 cm	Cartons, curved or textured surfaces, labels read in a warehouse

Reading distance is a rule of thumb: about ten times the width of the scannable square. For a pallet label read from a metre away, make the artwork about 300 mm wide.

- **Match the printer.** Make the smallest dot a whole number of printer dots, at least three. At 300 dpi, four dots per module gives 29 mm artwork. At 203 dpi, four dots gives 43 mm.
- **Leave a clear margin** of at least 3 mm outside the frame. Print nothing over the code.
- **Keep the contrast.** Dark on light. Do not invert it, and do not print it on a dark or patterned background.
- **Choose matte.** Gloss and shrink-wrap cause glare. Avoid seams, folds and curved edges across the scannable square.
- **Test first.** Print the scan test sheet in this pack on your own printer and stock, at 100 per cent, and scan it with the phones your customers use.

The artwork decoded in software down to about one and a half pixels per dot, so these sizes keep a wide margin for ink spread and phone cameras. Your own printed test is the final check.

Colour or black and white

Both carry the same code and scan the same way. Use colour where you print in colour. Use black and white for single-colour label printers, laser marking and anywhere ink is limited. The artwork folder has both, as SVG for print and PNG for screens.

Sticker and label options

- **Your own label printer:** thermal transfer at 300 dpi on matte white polypropylene or polyester. Use the SVG, not a screenshot.
- **Sheet labels:** a laser printer on matte white sheet labels. Print at 100 per cent, no “fit to page”.
- **A label or packaging printer:** send the SVG and the width, for example “40 mm wide, black only, matte white stock”.
- **Your packaging artwork:** place the SVG in your design files at the size above, with the clear margin.
- **Marking the part itself:** laser etching, dot peen and similar methods need their own tests. Use black and white and talk to us first.

Automate with the API

The registry has a public read API: **`GET https://q-upid.com/api/v1/items/Q-XXXXXXX-X`** returns a record as JSON (200 found, 400 wrong format, 404 not issued, 503 registry unreachable). **`GET https://q-upid.com/api/v1/items/search?q=&field=&match=&limit=`** searches by part number or manufacturer. Fields: q_code, manufacturer, manufacturer_url, brand_of, part_number, state, assurance_level, allocated_on, withdrawal_reason, evidence_kind, distributor. Issuing codes by API is planned and is not available yet.

RFID and NFC: for discussion

A printed 2D code is the supported form today. An NFC tag could carry the same address a scan opens. UHF RFID is better for bulk reading, but how a Q-UPID is encoded on a chip is not decided. Tell us what readers and tags you use.

Questions

What gets a Q-UPID? One manufacturer's part: the manufacturer and the manufacturer's part number, kept as you write it. Descriptions never decide identity.

What if the part number changes? A new part number, or a different manufacturer name, is a new Q-UPID. If the part number stays, the Q-UPID stays.

Does it replace our part numbers or barcodes? No. It sits alongside them.

Is anything about my part stored in the 2D code? No. It holds only the address of the part's record. The code itself means nothing.

Does scanning need an app? No. A phone camera opens the record on q-upid.com.

Can I resize it? Yes, in proportion, within the size guidelines. Do not stretch, crop, recolour or invert it.

Can a distributor get a code for my part? Some codes are issued from distributor catalogue listings and are marked as not yet checked against your own page. Ask us to confirm them as yours.

Does a Q-UPID say one part replaces another? No. Replacements and alternatives are relationships between parts and belong in a separate layer.

Next step

Fill in the parts list template and send it to **`enquire@q-upid.com`**, or use the form at **`q-upid.com/enquire`**. Full guide online: **`q-upid.com/get-a-qupid`**.

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