

CodeMaker

CodeMaker is a barcode generation system which will print barcodes on either a dot matrix (Epson compatible) printer or an HP Laser II compatible laser printer. The following barcode styles are supported:



Code 3 of 9



Interleaved 2 of 5



UPC-A, UPC-E



EAN-8, EAN-13



Code 128

General Help

[Copyright](#)

[Main Menu](#)

[Main Screen](#)

[Technical Support](#)

[Example](#)

Main Menu

The main menu at the top of the window can be accessed by pressing ALT + {first letter of selection} or just press ALT and then use the arrow keys/ENTER to select menu items.

File Menu

This submenu will allow the user to: Clear the current template (NEW), load a previously saved template (LOAD), save the current template (SAVE), delete a previously saved template (DELETE), or exit the application. The filename for a template must end with ".TMP"

Other Menu

This submenu will allow the user to: eject the current page of labels (EJECT), or import a comma-delimited datafile as described below (IMPORT), or (RESET) the current printer to it's defaults.

Copy to Clipboard

Creates graphics image of barcode which can be copied to the clipboard and then pasted into any other windows program. The only data that will be barcoded is the data that is in the BARCODE ID field and the serial number if the SERIALIZED button is checked, but the barcode type, descriptions, and checkboxes will be observed while creating the image. Once the image has been displayed, all you have to do is press the COPY button and then go to your application and paste the image. Some adjustments of the image may be needed for low resolution 9pin printers in order to get a readable barcode.

Main Screen

Printer Selection:

This list box is for the selection of the type of printer you will be printing to. You can use the mouse or the up/down arrow keys to select a printer. The labels available will automatically be adjusted depending on which printer you select.

Label Selection:

This list box is for the selection of the type of label you will be printing to. You can use the mouse or the up/down arrow keys to select a printer. The list will only show the labels available on the current printer.

Barcode Selection:

This list box is for the selection of the type of barcode you will be printing. You can use the mouse or the up/down arrow keys to select a printer.

Barcode ID:

This field is for the entry of the barcode ID. The field is setup to allow for any alphanumeric sequence, but you will need to make sure that the barcode you are generating can handle what you type in.

Description:

There are two fields for descriptions which will be printed underneath the barcode. They are both setup to accept any alphanumeric sequence.

Quantity:

This field is for the total number of barcodes that you wish to print. The field is setup to only accept numeric entries.

Serial #:

If you are creating barcodes which will be based on a serialized number then you will have to enter a starting serial number in this field. The field is setup to only accept numeric entries.

Print ID:

This toggle is SELECTED to print the human readable code beneath the barcode. Default:SELECTED

Serialized:

This toggle is SELECTED to allow the printing of serialized barcodes based upon the starting serial # that is entered by the user. A prefix can be typed into the barcode ID window. Default:DESELECTED

Auto Formfeed:

This toggle is SELECTED to allow the generation of a formfeed character after the current run of labels has been printed. This character is needed for laser printers to eject the last page of barcodes. Default:DESELECTED

Show Control Characters:

THIS TOGGLE IS ONLY USED WITH BARCODE TYPE: CODE-128.

If it is SELECTED, then any control sequences that were entered as part of the barcode ID will show up in the human readable text right below the barcode, such as: CTRL-A will print like ^A. If it is NOT SELECTED, then control sequences are stripped from the barcode ID, but will still be in the barcode itself.

all
encoded

Overpasses:

These option buttons select the number of overpasses desired when printing on a dot matrix printer.

The higher the number, the darker the barcode:1-New Ribbon, 2-Normal (default),3-Worn Ribbon

Print:

This pushbutton prints the current set of labels

Import File

Each line in the comma delimited file for IMPORT must be setup like this: "BARCODE ID","Desc1","Desc2",Qty. Three commas must be on each line for CodeMaker to read the file correctly. All other items (printer,barcode type,etc) must be setup before hand by the user. AUTO FORMFEED, SERIALIZED are automatically setup by CodeMaker. If no quantity is entered, then the quantity will default to 1. The filename for an IMPORT file must end with ".IMP"

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Barcode Example

The Data Entry Screen

Creating your first barcode label is simple, and involves the following steps:

The main window contains a Window 95 style tab control, which is available even if you are running Windows 3.1/WFWG. You can access each tab just by clicking on the tab title. There are two tabs available: The first one will allow you to access the actual data which will appear on the barcode label, and the second tab allow you to change the way the barcode labels will be printed.

Click on the BARCODE INFO tab

* Select a Barcode Type - This field is a pull-down list box from which the barcode type is selected from. You can access it with the mouse by clicking anywhere on the field itself, or by pressing the down arrow key. Then all you have to do is use the up/down arrows to highlight the desired barcode type and press ENTER select it. You can also select it with the mouse.

Go on and select UPC-A...

* Select a Printer - This field is a pull-down list box from which the printer is selected. Access is the same as selecting a barcode type.

Select the type of printer you will be printing to...

* Select a Label Size - This field is a pull-down list box from which the label size is selected. Access is the same as selecting a barcode type. This list box will only show the labels that are available for the currently selected printer.

Select a label size (you can print to regular paper for now)...

* Enter Barcode ID - This is the text field that will actually be barcoded. It is setup to allow any alphanumeric sequence, but there are standards that each barcode type can accept. These standards are described later on in the manual.

Enter this valid UPC-A code: 05000012072

* Enter 2 Description Lines - These are two text fields that will display below each barcode after it is printed. They are both setup to accept any upper/lowercase alphanumeric sequence.

Enter some text into both lines...

* Enter Quantity of Labels - This field is for the total number of barcodes that you wish to print. It is setup to only accept a numeric entry.

Enter a quantity of 6 for now...

* Enter a Starting Serial Number - This field is used if you want to print barcodes based upon a serialized number. The field is setup to only accept numeric entries, and can be prefixed by a value entered in the barcode ID. For instance, if you wanted to barcode: P45901, and have just the number increment for each barcode printed then you would enter "P" in the barcode ID field and "45901" in the serial number field. DO NOT FORGET TO CHECK THE SERIALIZED CHECK BOX!

Enter nothing in this field...

* Click on the PRINT SETUP tab

* Print ID - This field is a checkbox which determines whether or not to print the barcode ID beneath the actual barcode itself. This checkbox can be toggled with the space bar or a mouse click. Default: SELECTED.

Select this checkbox...

* Serialized - This field is a checkbox which determines whether or not the current run of barcodes is going to be based upon a serial number. It can be selected/deselected with the space bar or a mouse click. Default: DESELECTED.

Make sure this checkbox is deselected...

* Auto Formfeed - This field is a checkbox which determines whether or not a formfeed is automatically generated after the current run of labels. It can be selected/deselected with the space bar or a mouse click. This should be selected if you are printing to a laser printer, because that type of printer will not print the last page of labels until a formfeed is sent to it.

Default: DESELECTED

Select this checkbox...

* Show Control Characters - THIS TOGGLE IS ONLY USED WITH BARCODE TYPE: CODE-128. If it is SELECTED, then any control sequences that were entered as part of the barcode ID will show up in the human readable text right below the barcode, such as: CTRL-A will print like ^A. If it is NOT SELECTED, then all control sequences are stripped from the barcode ID, but will still be encoded in the barcode itself.

Make sure this checkbox is deselected...

* Overpasses - This field is an option field to determine how many times a dot matrix printer will pass over each line in the barcode itself. You can select 1,2, or 3 times with the left/right arrow keys. 1 - new ribbon, 2 times - normal (default), 3 times - worn ribbon

Select overpasses as necessary..

* Print - This push button will print the current run of labels when pushed. You can stop the labels from printing by pressing the ESC key. A window will popup telling you which number label is being printed and the total number of labels to be printed.

Push this button to print your labels...

Technical Support

If you have any problems installing or running CodeMaker, please feel free to contact our technical support department at one of the following:



Internet: kirkq@execpc.com



Compuserve: 74537,2410



Telephone: 414-251-0915

