PATIENT WRISTBANDS: LASER OR THERMAL?

Barcoded wristbands can be printed in two ways, laser or thermal. Here, we look at the advantages of each system.

Laser printing

- Self-laminating wristbands offer protection against moisture and hand-sanitisers, preserving patient data for longer wristband usability
- Simple, fast barcoded wristband solution without the need for a separate printer or network
- Quick, flexible and easy to use

Click icons to compare printing methods

Thermal printing

- Thermal desktop printers are small enough to fit into crowded nurses stations and trolleys
- Simple to use – if printed using the HC100, the printer automatically calibrates for wristband size and optimal print quality
- Printer reliability ensures maximum up-time and minimal IT service calls
- Wristbands are latex-free, MR-safe and resistant to water, mild soaps and hand gels used in hospitals

Click icons to compare printing methods

Identifying patients with barcoded wristbands is the most failsafe means of assuring correct patient identification in healthcare settings. Barcoding solutions fulfil the principles of the 'Five Rights' of patient care – Right Patient, Right Medication, Right Dose, Right Time and Right Method of Administration – and prevent potentially fatal administrative errors.

Find out more about our comprehensive range of barcoding solutions at www.zebra.com

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Patient safety
Laser

Self-laminating wristbands ensure patient data remains readable and scannable throughout the patient stay.

Security slit design ensures bands cannot be removed and re-applied.

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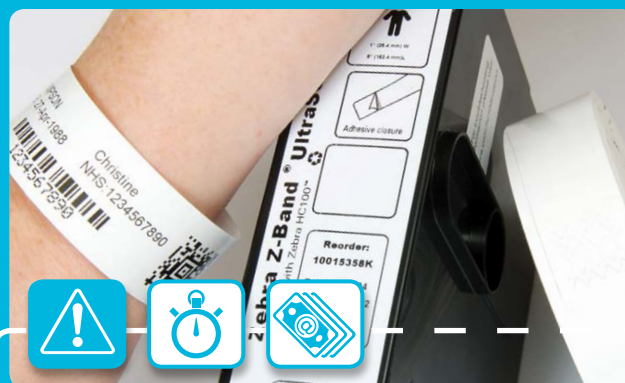
Patient safety
Thermal

Optimally suited to produce 2-D symbols and very small barcodes with superior edge definition for maximum readability and scan performance.

Security slit design ensures bands cannot be removed and re-applied.

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ZEBRA TECHNOLOGIES

SEE MORE. DO MORE.

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Efficiency
Laser

- Helps meet electronic medical records (EMR) protocol without having to invest in new equipment
- Ability to print patient wristbands and chart labels simultaneously, streamlining the admissions process

Efficiency
Thermal

- Intuitive interfaces for convenient connection and management in hospital environments
- Fewer help desk calls and less demand on IT resources
- Quick and easy to print and apply wristbands – enhances overall productivity

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Cost
Laser

- Save costs over dedicated thermal printers, using legacy equipment
- Easily maintain devices already connected to the network by existing resources
- Fewer devices to monitor, manage and maintain
- Improved workflow with minimal disruption to users

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Cost
Thermal

- Lower wristband cost than laser solution
- On-demand printing enables users to generate only the wristbands or medical record labels they need, reducing costs and wastage
- No need to replace ink or toner or store toner cartridges, reducing maintenance costs and total cost of ownership

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