

Which Bar Code Reader best suits my needs

What type and which model of bar code reader do you select for your library, there are many variants.

Some say there are too many to choose from, a bit confusing.

Let's see if we can help.

Usually a libraries requirements for bar code readers will fall into two categories:-

- a) Basic loans and returns at the circulation desk.
- b) Ability to be used for stocktaking in real time mode or batch collection mode.
- c) Both of the above.

A bar code reader that belongs in category (a) needs to be robust but does not necessarily have to be portable or expensive. In many cases a bar code reader that connects directly to the computer with a USB cable is adequate.

Best choice:- D-Tech 1D model DB-6090 at **\$137.50** incl GST.

Best choice:- D-Tech 2D model DB-6210 at **\$198.00** incl GST.



DB-6090/6210

Although there isn't a cable visible in the picture one is provided and it plugs into the handle of the scanner, the cables other end connects to the computer's USB Port.

While the scanner is shown seated in the freely supplied "Hands Free Stand" it can be easily lifted out and used independently if required. The angle of the scanner when seated in the stand is adjustable.

The models DB-6090 and DB-6210 also incorporate an IR auto trigger feature, which the operator can selectively choose to use. This ability to read bar codes without using the trigger is especially student friendly.

"Hands Free" sometimes referred to as "Presentation Mode" means that the DB-6***'s can remain in the stand and read the bar code presented to them automatically.

"Hands Free" also means **"Touch Free"** for those concerned with hygiene.

Dataman Barcode Systems

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Another popular bar code reader that falls into category (a) is the Cipher Labs model 1000 at **\$137.50** Incl GST.

The Cipher Labs 1000 has been a time honored favorite among school libraries, it is very tough and can be configured if required to read bar codes without having to depress the trigger.



Cipher Labs 1000

Unlike most other modern bar code scanners the model 1000 has to be held very close to the bar code that is being read for satisfactory results.

The Cipher 1000 is sometimes referred to as a "Touch Scanner" because of the above.

No, unfortunately it doesn't come with a desk stand.

Stocktaking & General Circulation desk use:-

A bar code reader that falls into category (b) should be rugged and does need to be portable, it doesn't however have to be overly expensive.

In most cases a bar code reader that is portable usually communicates to the computer wirelessly.

Best choice:- D-Tech model DB-6083 at **\$363.00** incl GST (CCD Version)

Best choice:- D-Tech model DB-6003 at **\$396.00** incl GST (Laser Version)

DB-6083/6003



The D-Tech DB-6083 and DB-6003 are portable wireless scanners and are supplied with a battery-charging cradle. The cradle is connected to the computer with a USB cable, which is all that is required. No software setups simply connect and go. Operator selectable optional use IR auto trigger feature. Can be used for both category (b) and (c).

With their wireless range of up to 80M or better, stocktaking with the DB-6083 and DB-6003 can be undertaken in real time or in batch mode where absolute wireless range is no longer a consideration.

The battery charge is maintained by always parking the scanner back in the cradle when not in use.

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Three other portable bar code readers that fall into category (b) & (c), each able to do stocktaking in real time or in batch mode and still be cost effective are:-

D-Tech 1D model DB-5082 at **\$242.00** incl GST (Workspace Wireless Range)

D-Tech 1D model DB-5083 at **\$297.00** incl GST (Full Reach Wireless Range)

D-Tech 2D model DB-5013 at **\$335.50** incl GST (Full Reach Wireless Range)

DB-5082/5083



The D-Tech models DB-5082, DB-5083 and DB-5013 are all portable wireless readers. The major difference between them is their wireless range whereby the shorter-range model DB-5082 is mainly offered as a cable free alternative to free the work desk from cable clutter.

The DB-5083 and DB-5013 (1D/2D auto trigger capable version) have a greater wireless range and a larger memory capacity to retain more data when stocktaking in batch collection mode.

Installation is as easy as fitting the supplied D-Tech USB wireless transponder to the host computer's USB port and letting the MS Windows plug & play feature accommodate for the new device automatically.

All portable scanners have batteries, the models DB-5082, DB-5083 and DB-5013 are no exception. The high capacity lithium ion batteries are factory fitted in the handles and are charged by connecting a supplied USB cable to the handle and connecting the other end to the computers active USB port, a fully discharged battery can take up to 4 hours to recharge. Scanning can still be undertaken while the batteries are being charged.

While the D-Tech models DB-5082, DB-5083 and DB-5013 can be readily used with desktop PC's they are especially suited for use with Laptop PC's.

All of the portable D-Tech bar code readers mentioned in category (b) also qualify for category (c). i.e. can also be used for day to day loans and returns.

Other models in the D-Tech range are available that cater for the new generation of 2D (Two Dimension) bar code applications that are emerging in the market.

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Another favorite time honored portable bar code reader that falls into category (b) and (c) is the Cipher Labs model 1560P at **\$484.00** Incl GST.



Cipher Labs 1560P

The Cipher 1560P wireless portable is supplied with a battery-charging cradle. The cradle is connected to the host computer with a USB cable and a second separate cable to a power transformer.

Installation is an easy process of connecting to the computer's USB port and letting the MS Windows plug and play feature accommodate for the new device automatically.

The Cipher 1560P has a wireless range of up to 80M or better and stocktaking can be done in real time or in batch mode where absolute wireless range is not a concern.

When not in use the scanner/reader should always be returned to and correctly parked in the cradle to ensure the battery charge is maintained.

Prices shown are indicative only, the economic environment is volatile and currency values do fluctuate. For these reasons prices are subject to review without notice, please check first.

Do not hesitate to pick up the phone and call if you would like to know more detailed information about any of the bar code scanners that we offer.

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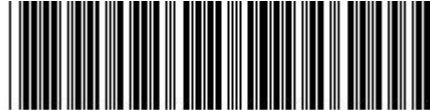
2D Bar Code.

The quest to find a way to encode more information within a bar code has led to the development of 2D bar code, 2D is shorthand for two dimension.

Where does that leave us with the conventional bar codes we have been using for many years? Well, they still exist and will continue to be used.

To differentiate them from their new siblings we now refer to them as 1D bar code short for one dimension.

Typical 1D Bar Code:-



2D bar codes can be viewed as layers of cropped 1D bar codes, regulation exists on how these are comprised and has to be strictly adhered to. This has led to the creation of several different symbologies or formats of 2D bar codes.

Commonplace among 2D types are **QR Code**; **Datamatrix**; **PDF 417** as shown below, other types exist but those illustrated are among the most popular.



Applications for 2D bar codes are growing in number and their appearance on forms, packaging and advertising is becoming more prevalent.

In most cases the bar code reader models that are capable of reading 2D bar code can also read conventional 1D bar code. A spin off benefit of the new reading technology used in 2D bar code readers called "Area Imaging" can lead to faster and easier scanning for the user.

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The ever-evolutionary progress of technology is also applicable to bar code readers. It is because of this the new models the D-Tech DB-9090 and DB-9095 are now worth mentioning here.



The DB-9090/95's are hand held corded bar code readers meaning that they are connected to the main computer with a USB cable.

Straightforward to use the modern DB-9090 & DB-9095's fits into category (a) for basic

loans and returns at the circulation desk.

D-Tech DB-9090 1D & 2D Ver
D-Tech DB-9095 1D only Ver



Capable of reading both 1D and 2D bar codes the DB-9090 sells for **\$198.00** Incl GST.

The 1D only version DB-9095 sells for **\$143.00** incl GST.

A Hands Free desk stand is available for the **DB-9095 only** (sold separately).

The DB-9090 represents a new generation of bar code reader and uses reading techniques that handle bar codes of various printed qualities including reflective labels better than earlier generations. In fact the DB-9090 will even read bar codes from the computer screen or mobile phone screen.

Based on a 32 byte CPU the DB-9090 is fast and this is evident in use. This speed coupled with advanced optics and the area imaging methodology of capturing the bar code makes it much easier for the user to read the bar codes.

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The increasing popularity of 2D bar code and growth in use is leading to the development of new and higher performance bar code readers.

DB-6510-USB



A good example of this is the D-Tech DB-6510 area imaging bench top scanner that is capable of reading 1D and 2D bar codes without the need to accurately align the bar code being scanned.

This is the same type of scanner that can be found being used in various point of sale locations like service stations and small supermarkets to process items quickly and accurately. With the implementation of new reading technology the DB-6510 has no internal moving parts to break or wear ensuring a long and reliable service life.

Due to their hands free implementation, bench top scanners like the DB-6510 are quickly being recognized as highly suitable for use in libraries at the circulation desk.

The DB-6510 comes supplied with a USB cable so installation is two connector clicks with one to the computer's USB port then just let Windows do it work.

Capable of reading both 1D and 2D bar codes the DB-6510 sells for **\$264.00**
Incl GST

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