



ISSN

Nominal size (Magnification 100%) ISSN/EAN-13 bar code symbol illustration

ISSN/EAN-13 symbol dimensions (mm)

Magnification Factor	A Width of Bar code (incl. LM & OCR-A font)	B Width from Left GB to Right GB	C Height of Bar code (incl. HRC*)	D Height of Bars (excl. GB & HRC)	E Left Light Margin/Quiet Zone (minimum)	F Right Light Margin/Quiet Zone (minimum)
0.80	37.85	25.08	27.18	18.28	2.90	1.85
0.85	37.85	26.65	28.45	19.42	3.09	1.96
0.90	37.85	28.22	29.97	20.57	3.27	2.08
0.95	37.85	29.78	31.24	21.71	3.45	2.19
1.00	37.85	31.35	32.51	22.85	3.63	2.31
1.05	39.15	32.92	33.78	23.99	3.81	2.43
1.10	41.02	34.49	35.05	25.14	3.99	2.54
1.15	42.88	36.05	36.58	26.28	4.17	2.66
1.20	44.75	37.62	37.85	27.42	4.36	2.77
1.25	46.61	39.19	39.12	28.56	4.54	2.89
1.30	48.48	40.76	40.39	29.71	4.72	3.00
1.35	50.34	42.32	41.66	30.85	4.90	3.12
1.40	52.21	43.89	42.93	31.99	5.08	3.23
1.45	54.07	45.46	44.45	33.13	5.26	3.35
1.50	55.94	47.03	45.72	34.28	5.45	3.47
1.55	57.80	48.59	46.99	35.42	5.63	3.58
1.60	59.66	50.16	48.26	36.56	5.81	3.70
1.65	61.53	51.73	49.53	37.70	5.99	3.81
1.70	63.39	53.30	50.80	38.85	6.17	3.93
1.75	65.26	54.86	52.32	39.99	6.35	4.04
1.80	67.12	56.43	53.59	41.13	6.53	4.16
1.85	68.99	58.00	54.86	42.27	6.72	4.27
1.90	70.85	59.57	56.13	43.42	6.90	4.39
1.95	72.72	61.13	57.40	44.56	7.08	4.50
2.00	74.58	62.70	58.67	45.70	7.26	4.62

Note: In the heading of this table, incl. = including, excl. = excluding, LM = Light Margins, GB = Guard Bars, HRC = Human Readable Characters

HRC*: When recommended OCR-A (ISSN Number String above bars) and OCR-B (below bars) fonts are used. Dimensions are in millimetres.

ISSN (International Standard Serial Number): A unique eight-digit or code used internationally to identify periodical or serial publications, including electronic serials.

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Light Margins: All bar code types require a certain amount of light space (or quiet zone) to the left and right of the code. This enables the scanner to differentiate between the bar code and surrounding graphics. Should the wrong type of graphic image or colour intrude on the light margin, there is a risk that the bar code will not decode, or worse, will decode incorrectly.

***Light Margin Indicator:* One of the most common causes of bad reads is light margin incursion. For this reason, some symbologies employ a method of protecting the quiet zone. In the case of an ISSN/EAN-13 bar code, a 'greater than' symbol (>) is placed on the right of the code in the human readable field, with the tip aligned with the outer edge of the *Right Light Margin* to discourage designers from placing graphics within the quiet zone. The use of a *Light Margin Indicator* is optional.

The Right Colours: Broadly speaking, light colours (including 'warm' colours such as red and orange) can be considered suitable for the background, including the light margins, while dark colours (such as black, blue and green) are suitable for the bars.

Ideal colours for the bars: ■■■■■ Ideal background colours: □■■■

Note: Hard copying this PDF document may result in a slight reduction of the intended physical size of the above ISSN/EAN-13 bar code symbol.

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