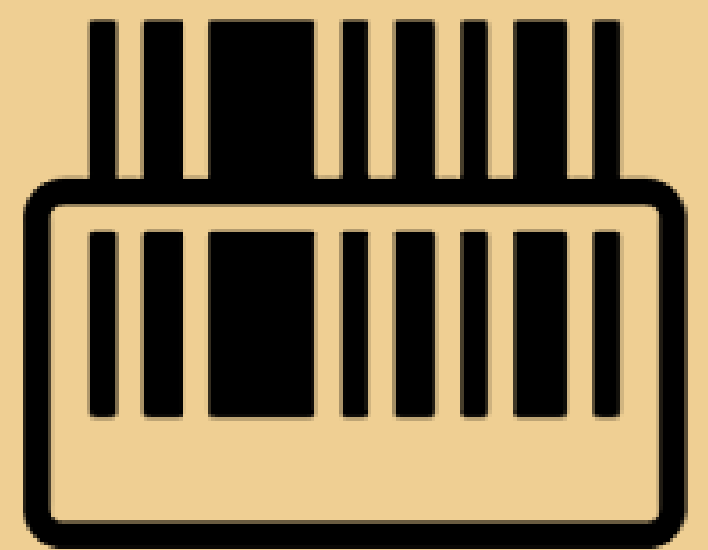


# PROS AND CONS OF USING BARCODE TECHNOLOGY

## WHAT IS A BARCODE?

### BARCODE TECHNOLOGY

A barcode is an image that consists of a series of parallel black and white bars that can be read by a barcode scanner. Barcodes are applied to products to quickly identify them. Among their many uses, barcodes are typically used in retail stores as a part of the purchasing process, in warehouses to track and manage inventory and on invoices to help with accounting.



## HOW DO BARCODES WORK?

### BARCODES

A barcode is a way to encode information into a visual pattern that a machine can read. The combination of black and white bars represents varying text characters that follow a pre-established algorithm for that barcode. A barcode scanner will read this pattern of black and white bars and translate them into a line of text that your retail point of sale system can understand.

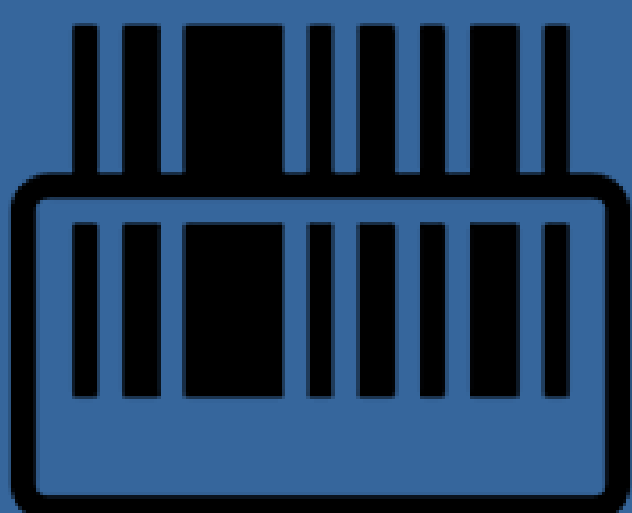


- Fast and accurate capture of data reduces paperwork and chance of errors.
- Reduced labor costs. Some savings will be realized from clerical hours eliminating paperwork.
- Timely information.
- Reduced training time. Warehouse processes using bar coding are often easier to teach new employees because it streamlines and clearly defines processes and best practices.
- Productivity measurement. Accurate and timely data capture ability to track individual and department function performance and posting individual results will increase productivity.

## PROS



## CONS



- Many warehouse operations are based on having individual selling units bar coded by the manufacturer. In order to have vendors or manufacturers apply bar code labels, some type of Vendor Compliance process is required.
- The labeling of all locations with bar code labels can be a time consuming and expensive process.
- If your business consists of a few items and relatively few orders, the cost and effort to implement the technology may not be justified.
- The acquisition and implementation cost of equipment and backbone infrastructure can be significant.

### Sources:

Pros and Cons of Bar Code Technology  
<https://www.lightspeedhq.com/blog/how-do-barcodes-work/>  
<https://www.fcbo.com/blog/bid/314725/pros-and-cons-of-bar-code-technology>