Mania-Fuelled Paranoia:

How to Survive the Apocalypse by Printing Your Sh*t in QR Codes

Version 0.1.0

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Chapter 1 Front Matter

1.1 Document

The document has been purposely made to be grayscale due to the following reasons:

- 1. Universality & Accessibility
 - a. To avoid issues for people with color blindness or visual impairments
- 2. Legacy and Print-Friendliness
 - a. This document is meant to be mass-printed
 - b. Sparse colors in the document would mean that this document would be needed to be printed in a color printer, which often times mean more expensive
 - c. Grayscale allows for photocopying while keeping clarity for the copies
- 3. Neutrality
 - a. Colors might be perceived as implying meaning or priority

The author is trying her best to write this in Simplified Technical English, and has obviously failed.

1.2 Notes for Future Me

The citation from the materials have not been paraphrased as I thought that this will be only used for casual purposes. But if it does need to be used for academic purposes as well, then the paragraphs copied from the references should be paraphrased, in order to meet academic standards.

I'm sorry for being manic this September 25, 2025. I hope that you are better now. Really, I do.

1.3 License

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Chapter 2 Mathematics

2.1 Set Theory

 $\{\,x:x\in\mathbb{R}\mid x>0\,\}$ is the set of all strictly positive real numbers.

S = letters of the alphabet.

$$|S| = 26$$

Power of Sets

$$S = \{a,b,c\}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(S) = \left\{\varnothing, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a,b\}, \{a,c\}, \{b,c\}, \{a,b,c\}\right\}$$

Let
$$A = \{1, 2, 3\}$$
 and $B = \{3, 4, 5\}$:

$${\rm Union} A \cup B = \{1,2,3,4,5\}$$

$${\rm Intersection} A \cap B = \{3\}$$

$${\rm Complement} A \setminus B = \{1,2\}$$

$${\rm Symmetric\ Difference} A \triangle B = \{1,2,4,5\}$$

Cartesian products

$$A\times B=\{(1,3),(1,4),(2,3),(2,4)\}$$

$$B \times A = \{(3,1), (3,2), (4,1), (4,2)\}$$

$$A \times B \neq B \times A$$

2.2 **Discrete Mathematics**

2.2.1 Key Concepts

Arguments Group of statements, one of which is claimed to follow from the others.

Proposition A statement that is either true or false, usually a declarative sentence.

2.2.2 Connectives

Connectives	Symbols	Meaning			
Negation	~/¬	Not			
Conjunction	^	And			
Disjunction	V	Or			
Implication/	\rightarrow	If			
Conditional	\rightarrow	"			
Biconditional	\leftrightarrow	If and Only If			
NAND	↑	Not And			
NOR	+	Not Or			
XOR	\oplus	Exclusive Or			

2.2.3.3 Disjunction

Р	Q	$P \lor Q$
Т	Т	Т
Т	F	Т
F	Т	Т
F	F	F

2.2.3.4 Implication

Р	Q	$\textbf{P} \to \textbf{Q}$
Т	Т	Т
Т	F	F
F	Т	Т
F	F	Т

2.2.3.5 Biconditional

2.2.2.1 Summary

Negation Inverts the truth value

Conjunction True when both statements are True

Disjunction True when at least one of the state-

ments are True

Implication False if First and Second Statement are 2.2.3.6 NAND

True and False respectively, otherwise

all configurations are True

Biconditional True when both statements have the

same truth value

NAND Negation of Conjunction

NOR Negation of Disjunction

XOR Negation of Biconditional

Р	Q	$\textbf{P} \leftrightarrow \textbf{Q}$
Т	Т	Т
Т	F	F
F	Т	F
F	F	Т

Р	Q	P↑Q
Τ	Т	F
Т	F	Т
F	Т	Т
F	F	Т

2.2.3 Truth Tables

2.2.3.1 Negation

Р	\sim P
Т	F
F	Т

2.2.3.7 NOR

Р	Q	P↓Q
Т	Т	F
Т	F	F
F	Т	F
F	F	Т

2.2.3.2 Conjuction

Р	Q	$P \wedge Q$
Т	Т	Т
Т	F	F
F	Т	F
F	F	F

2.2.3.8 XOR

Р	Q	$P \oplus Q$
Т	Т	F
Т	F	Т
F	Т	Т
F	F	F

Chapter 3 QR Codes

3.1 Front Matter

3.1.1 Foreword

This chapter is a chaotic compilation and reinterpretation of the QR Code standard — inspired by the formatting of ISO/IEC 18004:2015 and ISO/IEC 18004:2024 (PNS ISO/IEC 18004:2025), as previewed by the Bureau of Philippine Standards of the Department of Trade and Industry of the Republic of the Philippines (DTI-BPS) and various sublicensed vendors (thanks for the sneak peeks, y'all). While I did not have access to the full official standard, as they are expensive and very inaccessible, I pieced together this version through publicly available research papers, books, online articles, Wikipedia rabbit holes, and the likes.

I also added annotations throughout, partly for my own understanding and to help other folks who want to get into QR code encoding/decoding without being legally or financially overwhelmed.

This isn't an official standard; It's not ISO-blessed. This is a stitched-together knowledge quilt. But if it helps you understand how QR codes work, or if you're building your own encoder/decoder (like I am!), then mission accomplished.

Happy scanning, bestie:3

3.1.2 Disclaimer

This chapter is an independent, non-official reinterpretation and annotation of the QR Code standard, compiled for educational and reference purposes. It is not affiliated with, endorsed by, or a substitute for any official publication by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), or any related body.

All technical descriptions and explanations contained herein are derived from publicly accessible and legally obtainable sources, including but not limited to academic research papers, books, developer documentation, online articles, and collaborative knowledge bases such as Wikipedia. Efforts have been made to avoid verbatim copying from proprietary sources.

Annotations, commentary, and interpretations provided throughout this document are original contributions by the author, intended to clarify complex topics, offer implementation guidance, and promote accessibility and understanding among developers, researchers, and hobbyists.

This publication is provided under the principles of fair use and fair dealing, with respect to educational, scholarly, and transformative purposes. It should not be relied upon as an official or authoritative specification for compliance, certification, or regulation.

For formal or legal applications, readers are encouraged to consult the original ISO/IEC 18004 standard or its national equivalents.

3.1.3 Introduction

According to wikipedia, a QR code, quick-response code, is a type of two-dimensional matrix barcode invented in 1994 by Masahiro Hara of Japanese company Denso Wave for labelling automobile parts. It features black squares on a white background with fiducial markers, readable by imaging devices like cameras, and processed using Reed-Solomon error correction until the image can be appropriately interpreted. The required data is then extracted from patterns that are present in both the horizontal and the vertical components of the QR image. [1]

3.2 Definition of Terms

3.2.1 Abbreviations

2D two-dimensional [2]
QR code quick-response code [1]

API Application Programming Interface [3]

3.3 Symbol Description

QR code is a 2D barcode with the following characteristics:

- 1. Formats:
 - a. QR code, the full version; and
 - b. Micro QR code, a smaller version of the QR code standard for applications where symbol size is limited.
- 2. Character Set[1]:
 - a. Numeric: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
 - b. Alphanumeric: 0-9, A-Z (upper-case only), space, \$ (dollar sign), % (percent symbol), * (asterisk), + (plus symbol), (dash), . (period), / (slash), : (colon)
 - c. Binary/byte: ISO/IEC 8859-1 as described below.
 - d. Kanji/kana: Shift JIS X 0208 as described below.

3.4 Character Sets

3.4.1 ISO/IEC 8859-1

According to Wikipedia, ISO/IEC 8859-1:1998, *Information technology—8-bit single-byte coded graphic character sets—Part 1: Latin alphabet No. 1*, is part of the ISO/IEC 8859 series of ASCII-based standard character encodings, first edition published in 1987. ISO/IEC 8859-1 encodes what it refers to as "Latin alphabet no. 1", consisting of 191 characters from the Latin script[4].

3.4.1.1 Decode (Code → Character)

Remove the prefix 0x.

Split into two digits:

First digit = row(X).

Second digit = column (Y).

Locate row X0 in the table.

Move to column Y.

The cell contains the character.

- 1. To look for a specific character using its code—for example, code 0x57—one must:
 - a. Remove the hex prefix '0x' first.
 - b. Then, split the resulting code in 2.
 - c. Afterwards, use the first digit to locate the row of interest. In this example, it is row 5.
 - d. Next, use the second digit to locate the column of interest. In this example, it is column 7.
 - e. Now, find the intersection of the row and column of interest. The resulting cell is the character. In this example, it is the upper-case letter 'W'.
- 2. To get the code of a character—for example, the exclamation mark—one must:
 - a. Find the character of interest in the table. If it is not in the table, then it means that the character set does not contain said character.
 - b. After finding said character, get its row and column. In this example, the row and column is 2 and 1 respectively.
 - c. Then, combine '0x' hex prefix, the row and column digit of said character. In this example, it should result to '0x21'.

Table 3.1: ISO/IEC 8859-1

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Α	В	С	D	Е	F
00																
10																
20	[SP] ¹	į.	"	#	\$	%	&	•	()	*	+	,	-		1
30	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;	<	=	>	?
40	@	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	I	J	K	L	М	N	0
50	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	V	W	Х	Υ	Z	[١]	^	_
60	,	а	b	С	d	е	f	g	h	i	j	k	I	m	n	0
70	р	q	r	s	t	u	٧	W	X	У	Z	{	I	}	~	
80																
90																
Α0	[NBSP] ²	i	¢	£	¤	¥	-	§		©	а	«	_	[SHY] ³	®	-
В0	0	±	2	3	,	μ	9	•	5	1	o	»	1/4	1/2	3/4	خ
C0	À	Á	Â	Ã	Ä	Å	Æ	Ç	È	É	Ê	Ë	ì	ĺ	Î	Ϊ
D0	Ð	Ñ	Ò	Ó	Ô	Õ	Ö	×	Ø	Ù	Ú	Û	Ü	Ý	Þ	ß
E0	à	á	â	ã	ä	å	æ	ç	è	é	ê	ë	ì	ĺ	î	Ï
F0	ð	ñ	Ò	Ó	ô	Õ	Ö	÷	Ø	ù	ú	û	ü	ý	þ	ÿ

Symbols and Punctuations: 0x21-2F, 0x3A-3F, 0x40, 0x5B-60, 0x7B-7E, 0xA1-A9, 0xAB-AC, 0xAE-B1, 0xB4-B8, 0xBB, and 0xBF

3.4.2 Shift JIS X 0208

Table 3.2: Shift JIS X 0208

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Α	В	С	D	Е	F
2x	[NBSI	⊃]∱	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
3x	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
4x	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
5x	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
6x	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79
7x	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	[DEL] ⁵

Space character
 Non-breaking space
 Soft hyphen
 Non-breaking space
 Delete character

Table 3.3: Shift JIS X 0208

	+0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+8	+9	+A	+B	+C	+D	+E	+F
0																
10																
20		į.	"	#	\$	%	&	,	()	*	+	,	-		1
30	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;	<	=	>	?
40	@	Α	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Н	I	J	Κ	L	М	N	0
50	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	V	W	Х	Υ	Z	[1	^		
60	t	а	b	С	d	е	f	g	h	i	j	k	Ī	m	n	0
70	р	q	r	S	t	u	V	w	X	У	z	{	ı	}	~	
A0																
B0																
CO																
D0																
8140													,			
8150																
8160						,	,	"	,,							
8170			_							_	_	_	- -	- +	×	_
8180	÷		= ≠					= ∞				0				
8190		Ċ	£						- §							
81A0			<u> </u>						→ 3	■	= ↑	= ↓		_	_	-
81B0	-	_	_	_	_	_	_	_					_			
81C0											_					_
81D0									=	=				9		
81E0				√				ſ			_	-	_	0		_
81F0	Å	= ‰		V		†	= ‡	¶	_							
8240	_ A	700	-	_	_	'	т -	71					_			
8250																_
8260																
											=	=	=	=	_	_
8270														_	_	_
8280	=											=				
8290												_	_	=	_	
82A0																
82B0																
82C0																
82D0																
82E0																
82F0			_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_
8340															_	
8350																
8360																
8370															_	
8380																
8390																Α
83A0	В	Γ	Δ	Е	Z	Н	Θ	I	K	٨	М	N	Ξ	0	П	Р
83B0	Σ	Т	Υ	Φ	Χ	Ψ	Ω									а
83C0	β	γ	δ	3	ζ	n	θ	ι	K	λ	μ	٧	ξ	0	Π	ρ
83D0	σ	τ	U	ф	Х	Ψ	ω									
8440	Α	Б	В	Γ	Д	Е	Ë	Ж	3	И	Й	K	Л	М	Н	0
8450	П	Р	С	Т	У	Φ	Χ	Ц	Ч	Ш	Щ	Ъ	Ы	Ь	Э	Ю
8460	Я															
8470	а	б	В	Γ	Д	е	ë	Ж	3	И	Й	K	Л	М	Н	
8480	0	П	р	С	Т	٧	ф	Х	Ц	Ч	Ш	Щ	Ъ	Ы	Ь	Э

3.5 Versions

3.5.1 Explanation

According to Denso Wave Incorporated, QR Code versions determine the data capacity and structure of a code [5].

The following tables are sourced from the official QR Code documentation provided by Denso Wave [5].

The figures in the Numeral, Alphanumeric, Binary and Kanji columns indicate the maximum allowable number of respective characters, including those for the data bit number.

For example, when using the Version 1 QR Code with correction level L, the maximum allowable characters for data bit number, numerals, binaries, and Kanji are 152, 25, 17, and 10 respectively.

As explained by Denso Wave in the aforementioned documentation, to determine the version of the QR code to use, suppose the data to be input consists of 100-digit numerals. This can be achieved by following the steps described below[5]:

- 1. In the QR Code table, choose "Numeric" as the type of input data.
- 2. Choose an error correction level from the options of L, M, Q and H. For example, the error correction level that will be used is M.
- 3. Find a figure in the table, 100 or over and the closest to 100 that is at the intersection with a correction level M row. The number of the version row that contains this figure is the most appropriate version number. We can see at the tables below that the version closest to that is Version 3 with capacity for up to 101 numeric characters at error correction M.

3.5.2 Micro QR Code

Version	Modules	ECC Level	Numeric	Alphanumeric	Binary	Kanji
M1	11	-	5	-	-	-
M2	13	L	10	6	-	-
	13	М	8	5	-	-
M3	15	L	23	14	9	6
IVIO	15	М	18	11	7	4
	17	L	35	21	15	9
M4		М	30	18	13	8
		Q	21	13	9	5

3.5.3 QR Code

Version	Modules ({w}×{h})	ECC Level	Data bits (mixed)	Numeric	Alphanumeric	Binary	Kanji
		L	152	41	25	17	10
1	21	М	128	34	20	14	8
1		Q	104	27	16	11	7
		Н	72	17	10	7	4
		L	272	77	47	32	20
0	٥٦	М	224	63	38	26	16
2	25	Q	176	48	29	20	12
		Н	128	34	20	14	8
		L	440	127	77	53	32
7	20	М	352	101	61	42	26
3	29	Q	272	77	47	32	20
		Н	208	58	35	24	15
		L	640	187	114	78	48
,	77	М	512	149	90	62	38
4	33	Q	384	111	67	46	28
		Н	288	82	50	34	21
		L	864	255	154	106	65
5	37	М	688	202	122	84	52
		Q	496	144	87	60	37
		Н	368	106	64	44	27
	41	L	1088	322	195	134	82
6		М	864	255	154	106	65
		Q	608	178	108	74	45
		Н	480	139	84	58	36
	45	L	1248	370	224	154	95
7		М	992	293	178	122	75
/		Q	704	207	125	86	53
		Н	528	154	93	64	39
	49	L	1552	461	279	192	118
8		М	1232	365	221	152	93
0		Q	880	259	157	108	66
		Н	688	202	122	84	52
	53	L	1856	552	335	230	141
9		М	1456	432	262	180	111
9		Q	1056	312	189	130	80
		Н	800	235	143	98	60
		L	2192	652	395	271	167
10	57	М	1728	513	311	213	131
10	57	Q	1232	364	221	151	93
		Н	976	288	174	119	74
		L	2592	772	468	321	198
11	61	М	2032	604	366	251	155
11	61	Q	1440	427	259	177	109
		Н	1120	331	200	137	85
		L	2960	883	535	367	226
12	65	М	2320	691	419	287	177
IZ	00	Q	1648	489	296	203	125
		Н	1264	374	227	155	96

Version	Modules ({w}×{h})	ECC Level	Data bits (mixed)	Numeric	Alphanumeric	Binary	Kan _.
		L	3424	1022	619	425	262
13	69	М	2672	796	483	331	204
13		Q	1952	580	352	241	149
		Н	1440	427	259	177	109
		L	3688	1101	667	458	282
1/	77	М	2920	871	528	362	223
14	73	Q	2088	621	376	258	159
		Н	1576	468	283	194	120
		L	4184	1250	758	520	320
15	77	М	3320	991	600	412	254
15	77	Q	2360	703	426	292	180
		Н	1784	530	321	220	136
		L	4712	1408	854	586	361
10	04	M	3624	1082	656	450	277
16	81	Q	2600	775	470	322	198
		Н	2024	602	365	250	154
		L	5176	1548	938		397
17	85	М	4056	1212	734		310
		Q	2936	876	531		224
		Н	2264	674	408		173
18	89	L	5768	1725	1046		442
		M	4504	1346	816		345
		Q	3176	948	574		243
		Н	2504	746	452		191
	93	L	6360	1903	1153		488
			5016	1500	909		384
19		Q	3560	1063	644	_	272
		H	2728	813	493		208
	97	1	6888	2061	1249		528
		M	5352	1600	970		410
20		Q	3880	1159	702		29
		H	3080	919	557		235
		L	7456	2232	1352	322	572
		M	5712	1708	1035		438
21	101	Q	4096	1224	742		314
		Н	3248	969	587		248
		L	8048	2409	1460		618
		M	6256	1872	1134		480
22	105	Q	4544	1358	823	565	348
		Н	3536	1056	640	439	270
		I	8752	2620	1588	1091	672
		M	6880	2059	1248	857	528
23	109						
		Q	4912	1468	890 672	611	376
		H	3712	1108	672	461	284
		L	9392	2812	1704	1171	721
24	113	M	7312	2188	1326	911	56
		Q	5312	1588	963	661	407
		Н	4112	1228	744	511	315

Version	Modules ({w}×{h})	ECC Level	Data bits (mixed)	Numeric	Alphanumeric	Binary	Kanji
		L	10208	3057	1853	1273	784
ΩE	117	М	8000	2395	1451	997	614
25	117	Q	5744	1718	1041	715	440
		Н	4304	1286	779	535	330
		L	10960	3283	1990	1367	842
00	101	М	8496	2544	1542	1059	652
26	121	Q	6032	1804	1094	751	462
		Н	4768	1425	864	593	365
		L	11744	3517	2132	1465	902
07	105	М	9024	2701	1637	1125	692
27	125	Q	6464	1933	1172	805	496
		Н	5024	1501	910	625	385
		L	12248	3669	2223	1528	940
00	100	М	9544	2857	1732	1190	732
28	129	Q	6968	2085	1263	868	534
		Н	5288	1581	958	658	405
		L	13048	3909	2369	1628	1002
	133	М	10136	3035	1839	1264	778
29		Q	7288	2181	1322	908	559
		Н	5608	1677	1016	698	430
	137	L	13880	4158	2520	1732	1066
		M	10984	3289	1994	1370	843
30		Q	7880	2358	1429	982	604
		H	5960	1782	1080	742	457
	141	L	14744	4417	2677	1840	1132
		M	11640	3486	2113	1452	894
31		Q	8264	2473	1499	1030	634
		H	6344	1897	1150	790	486
	145	L	15640	4686	2840	1952	1201
		M	12328	3693	2238	1538	947
32		Q	8920	2670	1618	1112	684
		Н	6760	2022	1226	842	518
		L	16568	4965	3009	2068	1273
	149	M	13048	3909	2369	1628	1002
33		Q	9368	2805	1700	1168	719
		H	7208	2157	1307	898	553
		1	17528	5253	3183	2188	1347
	153	M	13800	4134	2506	1722	1060
34		Q	9848	2949	1787	1228	756
		Н	7688	2301	1394	958	590
		1	18448	5529	3351	2303	1417
	157	M	14496	4343	2632	1809	1113
35		Q	10288	3081	1867	1283	790
		Н	7888	2361	1431	983	605
		1	19472	5836	3537	2431	1496
		M	15312	4588	2780	1911	1176
36	161	Q	10832	3244	1966	1351	832
		Н	8432	2524	1530	1051	647
		П	0432	2024	1550	1031	04/

Version	Modules	ECC	Data bits	Numeric	Alphanumeric	Binary	Kanji
VELSIOLI	$(\{w\} \times \{h\})$	Level	(mixed)	Numeric	Alphanumenc	ынагу	Nariji
		L	20528	6153	3729	2563	1577
37	165	М	15936	4775	2894	1989	1224
37	105	Q	11408	3417	2071	1423	876
		Н	8768	2625	1591	1093	673
		L	21616	6479	3927	2699	1661
38	169	М	16816	5039	3054	2099	1292
30		Q	12016	3599	2181	1499	923
		Н	9136	2735	1658	1139	701
	173	L	22496	6743	4087	2809	1729
39		М	17728	5313	3220	2213	1362
		Q	12656	3791	2298	1579	972
		Н	9776	2927	1774	1219	750
	177	L	23648	7089	4296	2953	1817
40		М	18672	5596	3391	2331	1435
40		Q	13328	3993	2420	1663	1024
		Н	10208	3057	1852	1273	784

https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/Reed

https://www.thonky.com/qr-code-tutorial/module-placement-matrix

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
class QRCode:
    """

A QR Code symbol, which is a type of two-dimension barcode.

Invented by Denso Wave and described in the ISO/IEC 18004 standard. Instances of this class represen
```

Listing 3.1: Slay the print loop

Chapter 4 Attributions

The fonts used in this project are the following:

Sharanda M. (2018). *Manrope* [Font]. Licensed under the SIL Open Font License, Version 1.1. Retrieved June 5, 2025, from https://fonts.google.com/specimen/Manrope.

Miwa, S. (2018). *Comic Mono* [Font]. Licensed under the MIT License. Retrieved June 5, 2025, from https://github.com/dtinth/comic-mono-font. Modified by dtinth (2019).

The color themes used to color the code in this document are the following:

Nguyen, N. (2015-2020). *PaperColor* [Theme]. Licensed under the MIT License. Retrieved June 10, 2025, from https://github.com/NLKNguyen/papercolor-theme

Chapter 5 Bibliography

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- [3] Wikipedia contributors. API. June 2025. URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/API (Retrieved June 12, 2025).
- [4] Wikipedia contributors. ISO/IEC 8859-1. May 2025. URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO/IEC_8859-1.
- [5] DENSO WAVE INCORPORATED. Information capacity and versions of QR Code. URL: https://www.qrcode.com/en/about/version.html (Retrieved June 12, 2025).