

QR Codes:

What are QR Codes?

At its most basic, a [QR Code](#) is a barcode on steroids. They're used for encoding information in two-dimensional space -- like in the pages of magazines, in advertisements and even on TV and Web sites. They were originally used to track auto parts, but have become popular (especially in Japan) for much broader, often commercial purposes.

How is it different than a bar code?

Whereas a barcode encodes data in only the horizontal plane (as scanners read the width and distance between the vertical lines), QR codes encode data both horizontally *and* vertically in a grid of tiny squares. This allows for much more data to be encoded in a smaller space. Barcodes, then, though ubiquitous, are good for little more than identifying products and objects. Specially programmed scanners can read barcodes, and match them to product names, prices and inventory, but that's about it. QR codes, on the other hand, can actually embed that information in the code itself, and, when read with the proper software, can trigger actions like launching a website or downloading a file. Additionally, QR codes can be read from any angle, while barcodes must be aligned properly.

To learn more about QR codes go to the following website: <http://www.switched.com/2010/06/21/in-a-nutshell-what-are-qr-codes/>

QR code generators

www.qrstuff.com

<http://qrcode.kaywa.com>

www.Rasoftwarefactory.com/qr-generator - makes colored QR code

Uses for QR codes

<http://techsavvyprincipal.weebly.com/qr-codes.html> - assistant principal at Bowling Green High School

<http://www.cybraryman.com/qrcodes.html> - everything you want to know about QR codes

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ayW032sKtj8> - QR video created about students explain QR codes

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGYqxVrJN-s&feature=related> – examples of using QR codes

Other examples:

- Put QR code in back of library book with a review of the book
- Put a bio of yourself on the door for students to scan
- Add to a test to take students to website that is needed for test
- The possibilities are endless!