ZT411/ZT421

Industrial Printer



User Guide



2024/12/04

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About this Guide

This document is intended for use by any person who needs to perform routine maintenance, upgrade, or troubleshoot problems with the ZT411/ZT421 printer.

Notational Conventions

The following notational conventions make the content of this document easy to navigate.

- **Bold** text is used to highlight the following:
 - · Dialog box, window, and screen names
 - · Dropdown list and list box names
 - · Checkbox and radio button names
 - · Icons on a screen
 - · Key names on a keypad
 - · Button names on a screen
- Bullets (•) indicate:
 - · Action items
 - · List of alternatives
 - · Lists of required steps that are not necessarily sequential.
- Sequential lists (for example, those that describe step-by-step procedures) appear as numbered lists.

Icon Conventions

The documentation set is designed to give the reader more visual clues. The following graphic icons are used throughout the documentation set. These icons and their associated meanings are described below.



NOTE: The text here indicates information that is supplemental for the user to know and that is not required to complete a task.



IMPORTANT: The text here indicates information that is important for the user to know.



CAUTION—EYE INJURY: Wear protective eyewear when performing certain tasks such as cleaning the inside of a printer.

About this Guide



CAUTION—EYE INJURY: Wear protective eyewear when performing certain tasks such as installing or removing E-rings, C-clips, snap rings, springs, and mounting buttons. These parts are under tension and could fly off.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: If the precaution is not taken, the product could be damaged.



CAUTION: If the precaution is not heeded, the user could receive a minor or moderate injury.



CAUTION—HOT SURFACE: Touching this area could result in burns.



CAUTION—ESD: Observe proper electrostatic safety precautions when handling static-sensitive components such as circuit boards and printheads.



CAUTION—ELECTRIC SHOCK: Turn off (O) the device and disconnect it from the power source before performing this task or task step to avoid the risk of electric shock.



WARNING: If danger is not avoided, the user CAN be seriously injured or killed.



DANGER: If danger is not avoided, the user WILL be seriously injured or killed.

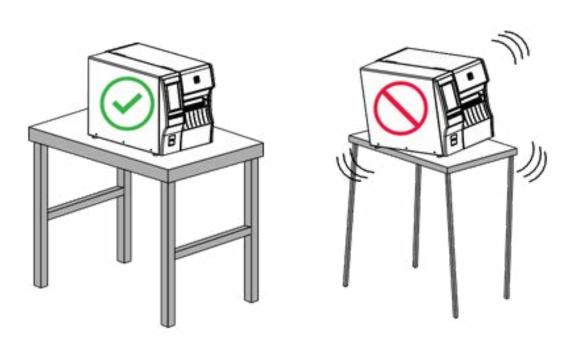
Printer Setup

This section assists a user with initial setup and operation of the printer.

Selecting a Location for the Printer

Select a location for the printer that meets these conditions:

• Surface—The surface where the printer will be located must be solid, level, and of sufficient size and strength to hold the printer.



 Space—The area where the printer will be located must include enough space for ventilation and for accessing the printer components and connectors. To allow for proper ventilation and cooling, leave open space on all sides of the printer.



CAUTION: Do not place any padding or cushioning material behind or under the printer because this restricts air flow and could cause the printer to overheat.

ULINE H-8906 1-800-295-5510

- Power—The printer should be within a short distance of an appropriate power outlet that is easily
 accessible.
- Data communication interfaces—The printer must be within range of your WLAN radio (if applicable)
 or within an acceptable range for other connectors to reach your data source (usually a computer).
 For more information on maximum cable lengths and configuration, see Communication Interface
 Specifications on page 214.
- Operating conditions—The printer is designed to function in a wide range of environmental and electrical conditions, including a warehouse or factory floor. The following table shows the temperature and relative humidity requirements for the printer when it is operating.

Table 1 Operating Temperature and Humidity

Mode	Temperature	Relative Humidity
Thermal Transfer	40° to 104°F (5° to 40°C)	20 to 85% non-condensing
Direct Thermal	32° to 104°F (0° to 40°C)	

Ordering Supplies and Accessories

You need to purchase certain supplies before you set up your printer, and you may choose to purchase accessories for the printer.

The following things that you will need do NOT come with the printer:

- Communication/network cables (such as serial or wired Ethernet) other than USB
- Media
- Ribbon (if your printer has a thermal transfer option)

For recommended supplies to ensure optimal operation of your printer, go to zebra.com/supplies.

Media

The type and size of media that you choose should be appropriate for the options installed on the printer (see Determining the Media Handling Method on page 33. Refer to the media specifications for the printer for minimum label lengths and other important things to consider.

For optimal printing quality and proper printer performance across the product lines, Zebra strongly recommends the use of Zebra Certified Supplies as part of the total solution. A wide range of paper, polypropylene, polyester, and vinyl stock has been specifically engineered to enhance the printing capabilities of the printer and to prevent premature printhead wear. To purchase supplies, go to zebra.com/supplies.

The Glossary includes terms associated with media, such as black mark media, gap/notch media, linerless media, RFID media, fanfold media, and roll media. Use these terms to help determine which type of media will suit your needs.

See Also

Media Specifications

Ribbon



NOTE: This section applies only to printers that have the Thermal Transfer option installed.

Do I need to use ribbon?	The media itself determines if you will need to use ribbon.	
	Thermal Transfer media—Requires ribbon.	
	Direct Thermal media—Does NOT require ribbon.	
How can I tell if media is Direct Thermal or Thermal Transfer?	The easiest way to find out is to scratch the surface of the media rapidly with your fingernail. If a black mark appears where you	
(See direct thermal on page 224 and thermal transfer on page 231 for definitions.)	scratched, the media is Direct Thermal, so you do NOT need ribbon.	
What kind of ribbon can I use?	I use? This printer can use ONLY ribbon coated on the outside, unless you purchase and install the optional spindle that allows the use of ribbon coated on the inside. Contact your authorized Zebra reseller for ordering information.	
How can I tell which side of the ribbon is coated?	Use one of these two methods to determine which side of the ribbon is coated:	
	Performing an Adhesive Test on page 72.	
	Performing a Ribbon Scratch Test on page 72.	

Cable and Port Protector Bracket

To enhance the durability and longevity of your printer, consider using the specially designed Cable and Port Protector Bracket (sold separately). This accessory provides robust protection for the printer's cable connections and ports, safeguarding them from accidental damage and wear.

The cable and port protector includes the following key features:

- **Durable Construction:** Made from high-quality injected molded materials to ensure long-lasting protection.
- **Easy Installation:** The kit includes all necessary components, screws, and "hook & loop" repositionable straps, allowing you to upgrade your printer's protection quickly and with minimal downtime.
- Universal Fit: Compatible with all ZT411, ZT411R, ZT421, and ZT421R models.

The Cable and Port Protector Bracket (Zebra part number P1105147-038) is an optional accessory that must be purchased separately. For more information on purchasing the kit, contact your authorized Zebra representative.

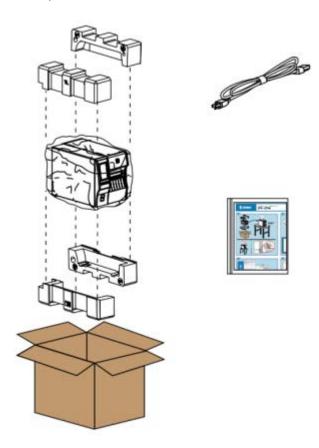
Inspecting the Contents of the Box

Ensure that the printer box contains all the items you need to set it up.



IMPORTANT: Zebra Technologies is not responsible for any damage incurred during the shipment of the equipment and will not repair this damage under warranty.

1. Carefully remove the printer from the box, and verify that the following items are included in the box with the printer:



Additional items may be included, depending on the options ordered with the printer.

- 2. If anything is missing, notify your authorized Zebra reseller.
- **3.** Immediately unwrap the printer and inspect for shipping damage.
 - Save all packing materials.
 - Check all exterior surfaces for damage.
 - Raise the media door, and inspect the media compartment for damage to components.
- **4.** If you discover shipping damage upon inspection:
 - · Immediately notify the shipping company and file a damage report.
 - Keep all packaging material for shipping company inspection.
 - Notify your authorized Zebra reseller.
- **5.** The printer shipped with several protective items for shipping, including a film of plastic over the transparent window on the media door. Before operating the printer, remove these protective items.



Connecting the Printer to a Device

After you have set up the printer, you are ready to connect the printer to your device (such as a computer, phone, or tablet).

Connect to a Phone or Tablet

Download the free Zebra Printer Setup Utility app for your device.

- Android devices
- Apple devices

The applications support the following types of connectivity:

- · Bluetooth Classic
- Bluetooth Low Energy (Bluetooth LE)
- Wired/Ethernet
- Wireless
- USB On-The-Go

For the User Guides for these printer setup utilities, go to <u>zebra.com/setup</u>.

Installing Drivers and Connecting to a Windows-Based Computer

To use your printer with a Microsoft Windows-based computer, you must install the correct drivers first.



IMPORTANT: You may connect your printer to your computer using any of the connections that you have available. However, do not connect any cables from your computer to the printer until you are instructed to do so. If you connect them at the wrong time, your printer will not install the correct printer drivers. To recover from incorrect driver installation, see What to Do If You Forget to Install Printer Drivers First on page 29.

Installing the Drivers

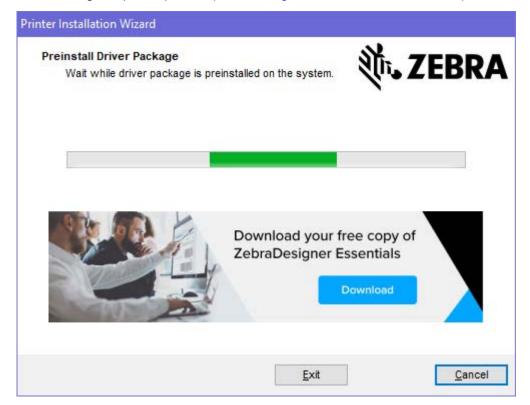
Follow these steps to install the correct drivers.

- **1.** Navigate to <u>zebra.com/drivers</u>.
- 2. Click Printers.
- **3.** Select your printer model.
- **4.** On the printer product page, click **Drivers**.
- **5.** Download the appropriate driver for Windows.

The driver executable file (such as zd86423827-certified.exe) is added to your Download folder.

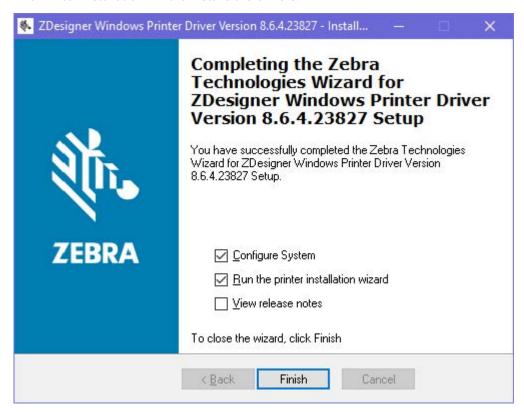
6. Run the executable file and follow the prompts.

When setup is complete, you may select to add all of the drivers to your system (**Configure System**) or to add/configure specific printers (see Running the Printer Installation Wizard).



7. Select Configure System, and then click Finish.

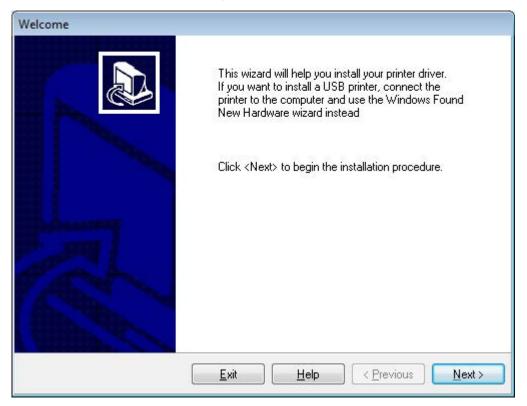
The Printer Installation Wizard installs the drivers.



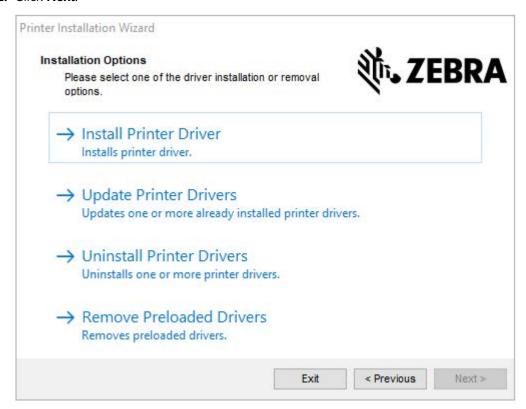
Running the Printer Installation Wizard

1. On the last screen of the driver installer, leave **Run the Printer Installation Wizard** checked, then click **Finish**.

The Printer Installation wizard displays.



2. Click Next.

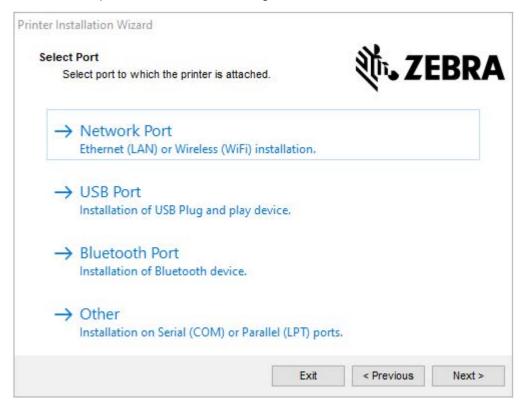


3. Click Install Printer Driver.

The license agreement displays.



4. Read and accept the terms of the license agreement, and then click Next.



- **5.** Select the communication option that you want to configure for your printer:
 - Network Port—or installing printers with an Ethernet (LAN) or wireless (Wi-Fi) network
 connection. Wait for the driver to scan your local network for devices and follow the prompts. If
 necessary, set the values as directed in Connecting to Your Network through the Printer's Ethernet
 Port on page 23 or in Connecting the Printer to Your Wireless Network on page 26.
 - USB Port—For installing printers connected with the USB cable. Connect the printer to the computer
 as shown in Connecting to a Computer Using the Printer's USB Port on page 20. If the printer is
 already connected and powered on, you may need to remove the USB cable and install it again. The
 driver will automatically search for the model of the connected printer.
 - Bluetooth Port—For installing printers with a Bluetooth connection.
 - Other—For installation using another type of cable, such as Parallel (LPT) and Serial (COM). No additional configuration is necessary.
- 6. If prompted, select your printer model and resolution.

The model and resolution are on a part number sticker on the printer, usually located below the media hanger. The information will be in the following format:

```
Part Number: XXXXXXY - xxxxxxxx
```

XXXXX = the printer model, and Y = the printer resolution (2 = 203 dpi, 3 = 300 dpi, 6 = 600 dpi).

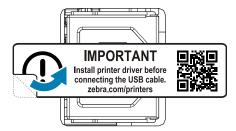
For example, in the part number $\mathtt{ZT411x3} - \mathtt{xxxxxxx}$, $\mathtt{ZT411}$ indicates that the printer is a $\mathtt{ZT411}$ model, and 3 indicates that the printhead resolution is 300 dpi.



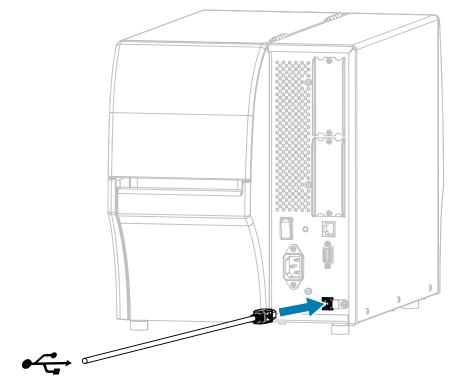
where

Connecting to a Computer Using the Printer's USB Port

1. After you install the drivers, remove the label that covers the USB port.

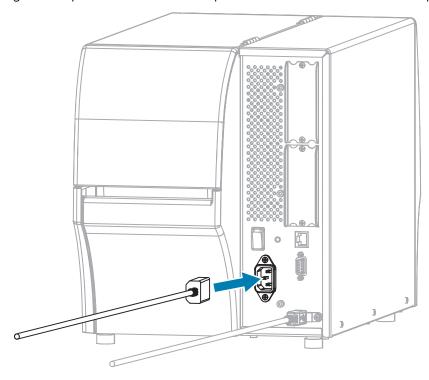


2. Connect the USB cord to the USB port on your printer.

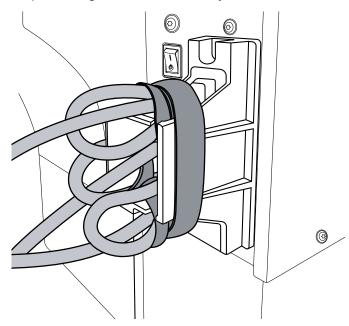


3. Connect the other end of the USB cord to your computer.

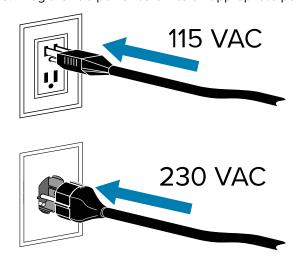
4. Plug the A/C power cord into the A/C power connector on the back of the printer.



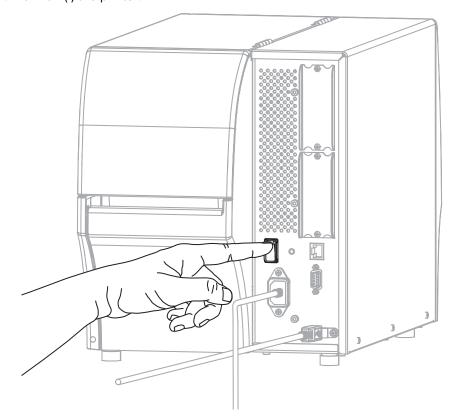
5. If desired, install a cable and port protector bracket (Zebra part number P1105147-038, sold separately). For purchasing information, contact your authorized Zebra representative.



6. Plug the A/C power cord into an appropriate power outlet.



7. Turn on (I) the printer.



As the printer boots up, your computer completes the driver installation and recognizes your printer.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: If you need to power cycle the printer, allow it to fully boot up first. Then after turning it off, wait 30 seconds before turning it back on. Power cycling the printer too quickly can cause issues.

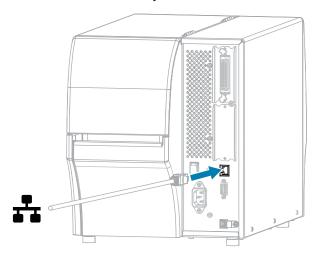
If you did not install the drivers first, see What to Do If You Forget to Install Printer Drivers First on page 29.

Connecting to Your Network through the Printer's Ethernet Port

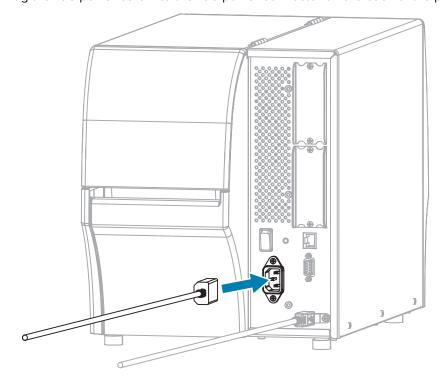
To use a wired print server (Ethernet) connection, you may need to configure the printer to communicate with your Local Area Network (LAN).

For additional information about Zebra print servers, refer to the ZebraNet Wired and Wireless Print Server User Guide. To download the latest version of this guide, go to <u>zebra.com/manuals</u>.

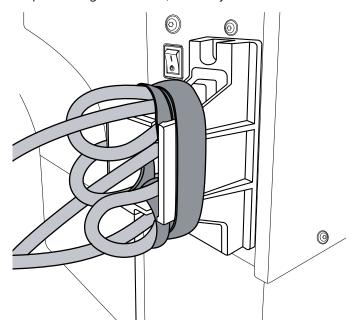
1. After you install the drivers (see <u>Installing the Drivers</u> on page 13), connect the printer to an Ethernet cable that is connected to your network.



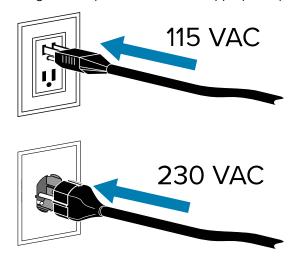
2. Plug the A/C power cord into the A/C power connector on the back of the printer.



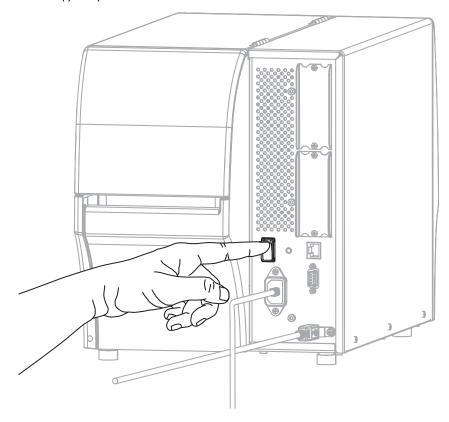
3. If desired, install a cable and port protector bracket (Zebra part number P1105147-038, sold separately). For purchasing information, contact your authorized Zebra representative.



4. Plug the A/C power cord into an appropriate power outlet.



5. Turn on (I) the printer.



The printer attempts to communicate with your network. If it is successful, it fills in your LAN's gateway and subnet values and gets an IP address.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: If you need to power cycle the printer, allow it to fully boot up first. Then after turning it off, wait 30 seconds before turning it back on. Power cycling the printer too quickly can cause issues.

If you did not install the drivers first, see What to Do If You Forget to Install Printer Drivers First on page 29.

6. On the Home screen, touch the Printer Info tab. Check the display to see if an IP address was assigned to the printer.

If the printer's IP address is	Then	
0.0.0.0 or	The NETWORK light is off or displays steady red. (See Indicator Lights on page 173 for more information.)	
000.000.000.000	 a. Check the Ethernet connector on the back of the printer. If no light is on or blinking, the Ethernet connection is not active. Check that both ends of the cord are plugged in correctly and that the network port that you are plugging into is active. When this issue is resolved, the printer should connect automatically. b. If necessary, configure the following printer settings to set a static IP address and then reset the network. Contact your network administrator for the proper values for your network. 	
	Connection > Wired > Wired IP Protocol—Change the value from ALL to PERMANENT.	
	Connection > Wired > Wired Gateway—Match the gateway value of your LAN.	
	Connection > Wired > Wired Subnet—Match the subnet value of your LAN.	
	Connection > Wired > Wired IP Address—Assign a unique IP address to the printer.	
	IP Address (wired or WLAN)—Assign a unique IP address to the printer.	
any other value	The connection was successful. The NETWORK light displays steady green or yellow, depending on the network. (See Indicator Lights on page 173 for more information.)	

7. Reset the network (see Connection > Networks > Reset Network) to allow changes to the network settings to take effect.

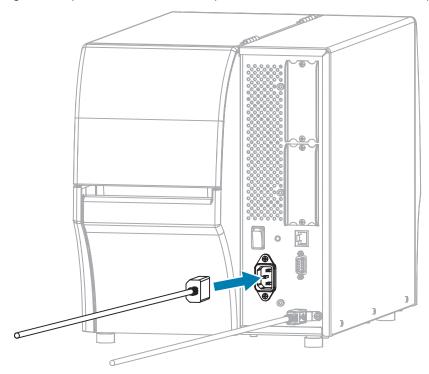
Connecting the Printer to Your Wireless Network

If you wish to use the printer's optional wireless print server, you may need to configure the printer to communicate with your Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) through the wireless print server.

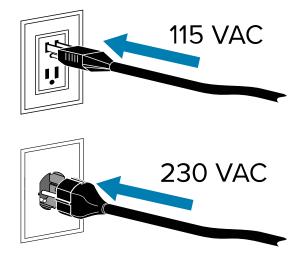
For additional information about Zebra print servers, refer to the ZebraNet Wired and Wireless Print Server User Guide. To download the latest version of this guide, go to <u>zebra.com/manuals</u>.

1. Install the drivers as instructed in Installing Drivers and Connecting to a Windows-Based Computer on page 13.

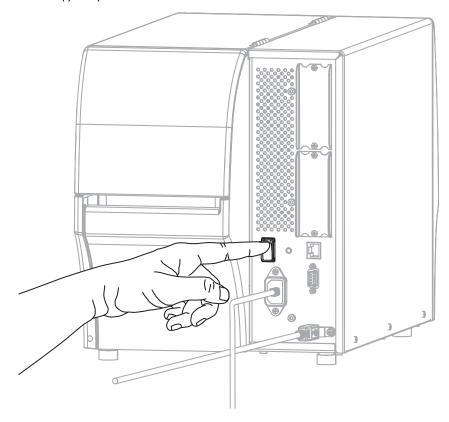
2. Plug the A/C power cord into the A/C power connector on the back of the printer.



3. Plug the A/C power cord into an appropriate power outlet.



4. Turn on (I) the printer.



As the printer boots up, your computer completes the driver installation and recognizes your printer.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: If you need to power cycle the printer, allow it to fully boot up first. Then after turning it off, wait 30 seconds before turning it back on. Power cycling the printer too quickly can cause issues.

If you did not install the drivers first, see What to Do If You Forget to Install Printer Drivers First on page 29.

- **5.** If necessary, specify the ESSID value that matches the value used by your wireless router. Check with your network administrator for the ESSID value to use. See Connection > Networks > ESSID for ways to change the value.
- **6.** If necessary, configure the following printer settings. Contact your network administrator for the proper values for your network.
 - Connection > WLAN > WLAN Gateway—Match the gateway value of your WLAN.
 - Connection > WLAN > WLAN Subnet—Match the subnet value of your WLAN.
- 7. Reset the network (see Connection > Networks > Reset Network) to allow changes to the network settings to take effect.
- **8.** If the printer still does not connect, consider setting a static IP address by configuring the following additional settings, and then reset the network again. Contact your network administrator for the proper values for your network.
 - Connection > WLAN > WLAN IP Protocol—Change the value from ALL to PERMANENT.)
 - Connection > WLAN > WLAN IP Address—Assign a unique IP address to the printer.



What to Do If You Forget to Install Printer Drivers First

If you plug in your Zebra printer before installing the drivers, the printer displays as an Unspecified device.

- 1. Follow the instructions in Installing Drivers and Connecting to a Windows-Based Computer on page 13 to download and install the drivers.
- 2. From the Windows menu, open the Control Panel.
- 3. Click Devices and Printers.

In this example, the MZ320 is an incorrectly-installed Zebra printer.



4. Right-click on the device, and select Properties.

The properties for the device display.



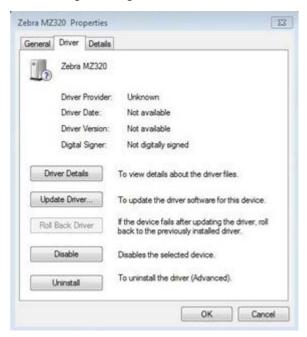
5. Click the Hardware tab.



Select the Zebra printer in the **Device Functions** list, then click **Properties**.
 The properties display.



7. Click Change settings, then click the Driver tab.



8. Click Update Driver.



- 9. Click Browse my computer for driver software.
- 10. Click Browse... and navigate to the Downloads folder.

11. Click **OK** to select the folder.



12. Click Next.

The device is updated with the correct drivers.

Upgrading the Printer Firmware

To use the latest features, make sure that the printer is updated with the latest firmware for your printer model. To find the latest firmware, navigate to the support page for your printer on <u>zebra.com</u>, and then click the **Downloads** tab.

Checking the Current Firmware Version

You can check the firmware version using the printer's control panel or a printer configuration label.

- 1. On the printer's Home Screen, touch Printer Info.
- 2. Verify that the Link-OS Version is 7.0 or later.

Uploading the Latest Firmware

For the latest features, update your printer to the latest v92 operating system.

- 1. Navigate tozebra.com/zt411-info.
- 2. Click the Downloads tab.
- 3. Click the Printer OS v92 entry on the Downloads tab.
- 4. For the . zipfile entry, click DOWNLOAD.
- **5.** Read the End User License Agreement, click the box to accept the terms and conditions, and then click**DOWNLOAD**.
- 6. In your Downloads folder, locate the V92.xx.xxx.zipfile and extract the contents to your computer.

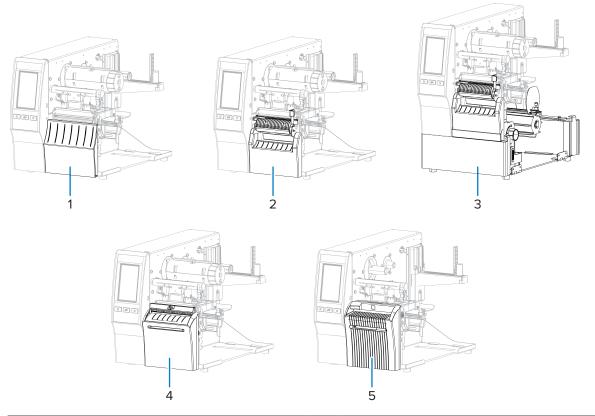
7. Using the software or utility of your choice (such as the ZDownloader utility, also available on the Downloads tab), upload the V92.xx.xxx.zplfile to your printer.

The printer downloads the firmware and installs it. When the installation is complete, the printer reboots.

Determining the Media Handling Method

Before loading media, decide on a media handling method that matches the media being used and the printer options available.

Figure 1 Printer Options



1	Tear-Off (standard)	4	Cutter option
2	Peel with Liner Take-Up option	5	Linerless cutter option
3	Rewind option		

 Table 2
 Media Handling Methods and Printer Options

Method	Required Printer Option	Description
Tear Off	Can be used with any printer option and most media types.	The printer prints label formats as it receives them. The printer operator can tear off the printed labels when the printer stops.

 Table 2
 Media Handling Methods and Printer Options (Continued)

Method	Required Printer Option	Description
Peel Off	Peel, Liner Take-Up, or Rewind option	The printer peels the label from the backing during printing and then pauses until the label is removed. The empty backing may be allowed to exit the front of the printer, or it may be wound onto the liner take-up spindle or rewind spindle.
Rewind	Rewind option	The printer prints without pausing between labels. The media is wound onto a core after printing. The rewind plate is used to keep the labels from separating from the backing.
Cutter*	Cutter option	The printer cuts between labels after each one is printed.
Delayed Cut*	Cutter option	The printer waits for a delayed cut ZPL command (~JK) before it cuts the last printed label.
Applicator	Applicator port connection required. This mode is for use with a machine that applies labels.	The printer prints when it receives a signal from the applicator. Authorized Service Technicians should refer to the Maintenance Manual for additional information about the applicator interface.
Linerless Cut	Linerless cutter option*	The printer cuts between labels after each one is printed.
Linerless Delayed Cut	Linerless cutter option*	The printer waits for a delayed cut ZPL command (~JK) before it cuts the last printed label.

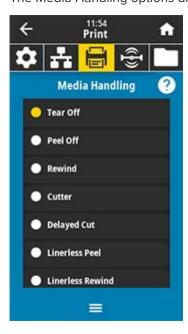


NOTE: * For the linerless cutter to behave as a standard cutter on a printer with firmware older than v 7.0, the Media Handling method (possibly called Collection method) must be set to Cutter.



NOTE: Linerless Peel, Linerless Rewind, and Linerless Tear are options reserved for future use.

On the Home screen, touch Menu > Print > Image Adjust > Media Handling.
 The Media Handling options display.



- 2. Select a method that matches the media being used and the printer options available.
- **3.** Touch the **Home** icon to return to the Home screen.

See Also

Print Menu

Loading the Media

Use the instructions in this section for loading roll or fanfold media in the appropriate label collection method for your needs.



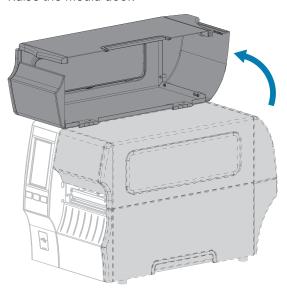
IMPORTANT: You are not required to turn off the printer power when working near an open printhead, but Zebra recommends it as a precaution. If you turn off the power, you will lose all temporary settings, such as label formats, and you must reload them before you resume printing.



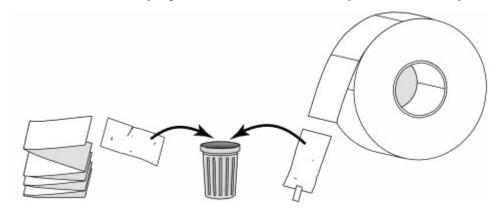
NOTE: The media path is the same for roll and fanfold media.

Inserting the Media into the Printer

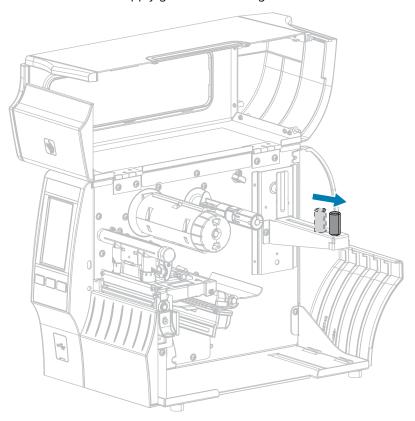
1. Raise the media door.



2. Remove and discard any tags or labels that are torn or dirty or that are held by adhesives or tape.

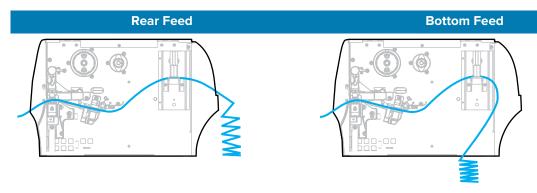


3. Pull out the media supply guide as far as it goes.

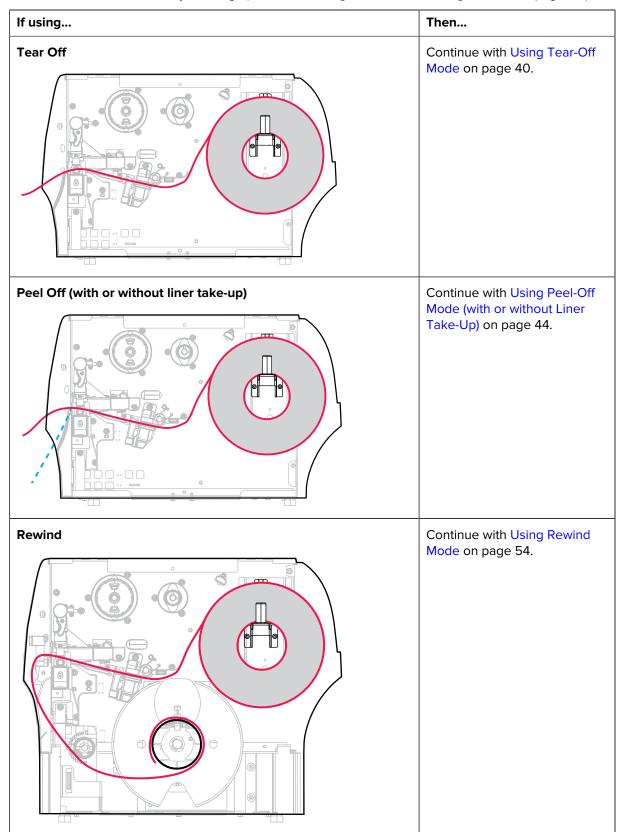


4. Insert roll or fanfold media into the printer. The media loading path is the same for both roll and fanfold media, so this is the only step that will be different.

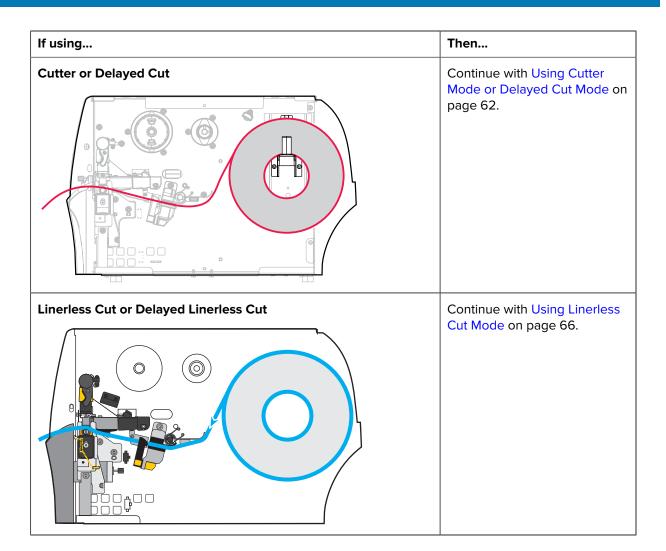
Type of media	Instructions	
Roll media	Place the roll of media on the media supply hanger. Push the roll as far back as it will go.	
Fanfold media	Fanfold media can be stored behind or under the printer. Depending on where the media is stored, feed the media either from behind or through the bottom access slot, then drape it over the media supply hanger.	



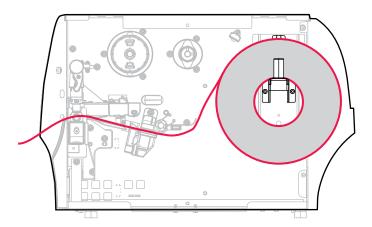
5. Which collection method are you using? (See Determining the Media Handling Method on page 33.)



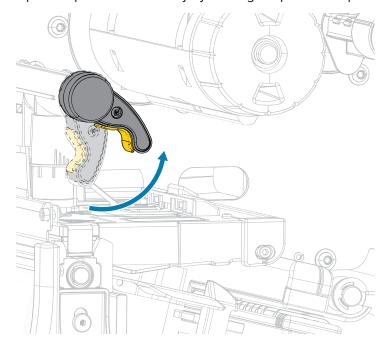
Printer Setup



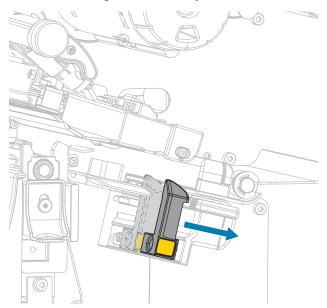
Using Tear-Off Mode



- **1.** If you have not already done so, follow the instructions in the section Inserting the Media into the Printer on page 36.
- 2. Open the printhead assembly by rotating the printhead-open lever upward.



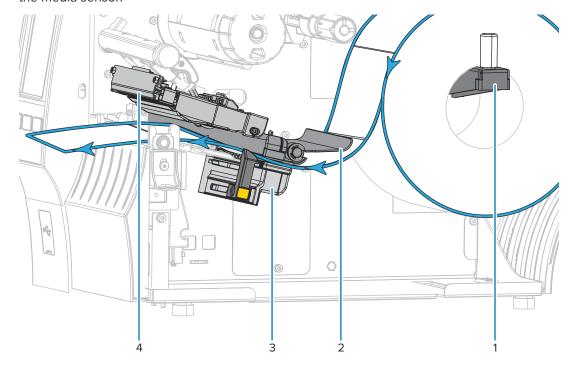
3. Slide the media guide all the way out.



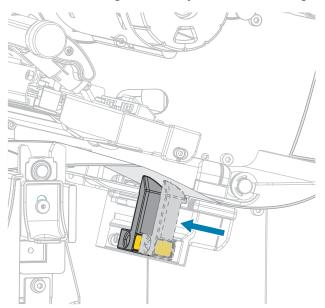


CAUTION: HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

4. From the media hanger (1), feed the media under the dancer assembly (2), through the media sensor (3), and under the printhead assembly (4). Slide the media back until it touches the inside back wall of the media sensor.



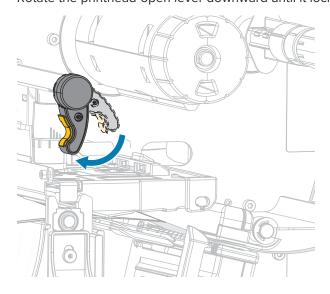
5. Slide in the media guide until it just touches the edge of the media.



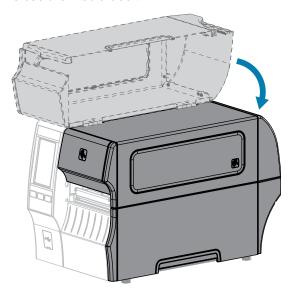
6. Does the media that you are using require ribbon for printing? If you are not sure, see Ribbon on page 11

If using	Then
Direct Thermal media (no ribbon needed)	Continue with step 7 on page 42.
Thermal Transfer media (ribbon needed)	If you have not already done so, load ribbon in the printer using the instructions in Loading the Ribbon on page 73, then continue on to step 7 on page 42.

7. Rotate the printhead-open lever downward until it locks the printhead in place.



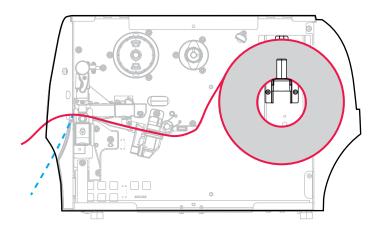
8. Close the media door.



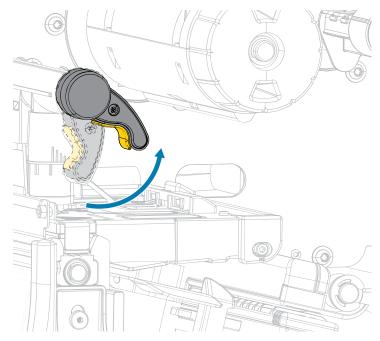
- **9.** Set the printer to the appropriate collection method that is compatible with your printer (see Print Menu > Label Position > Collection Method).
- Press PAUSE to exit pause mode and enable printing.
 The printer may perform a label calibration or feed a label, depending on your settings.
- **11.** For optimal results, calibrate the printer (see Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131).
- **12.** Verify that your printer can print a configuration label by holding both the **FEED** and **CANCEL** keys for 2 seconds.

Media loading in Tear-Off mode is complete.

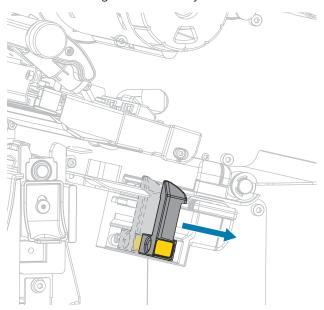
Using Peel-Off Mode (with or without Liner Take-Up)



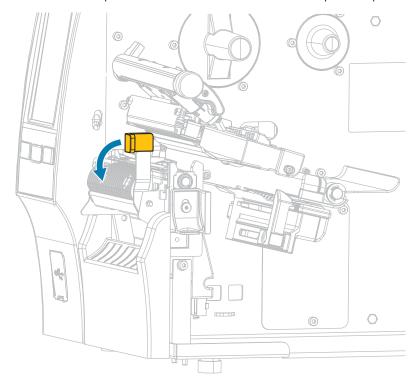
- **1.** If you have not already done so, follow the instructions in the section Inserting the Media into the Printer on page 36.
- **2.** Open the printhead assembly by rotating the printhead-open lever upward.



3. Slide the media guide all the way out.



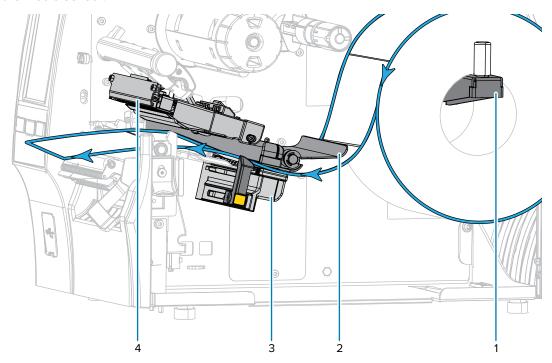
4. Push down the peel-off mechanism release lever to open the peel assembly.



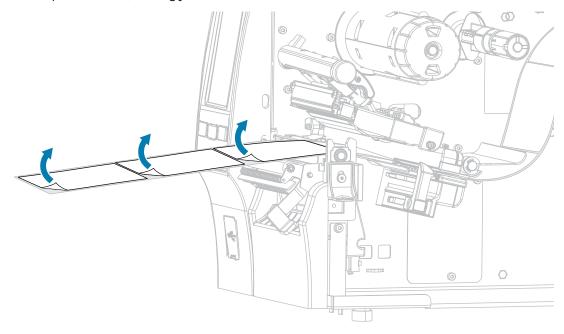


CAUTION: HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

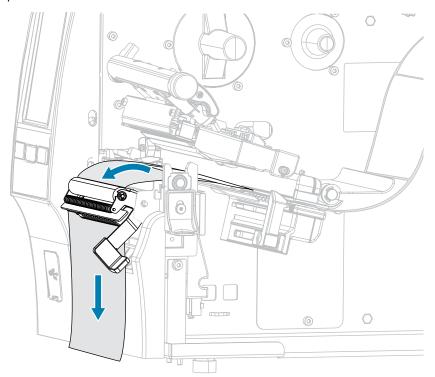
5. From the media hanger (1), feed the media under the dancer assembly (2), through the media sensor (3), and under the printhead assembly (4). Slide the media back until it touches the inside back wall of the media sensor.



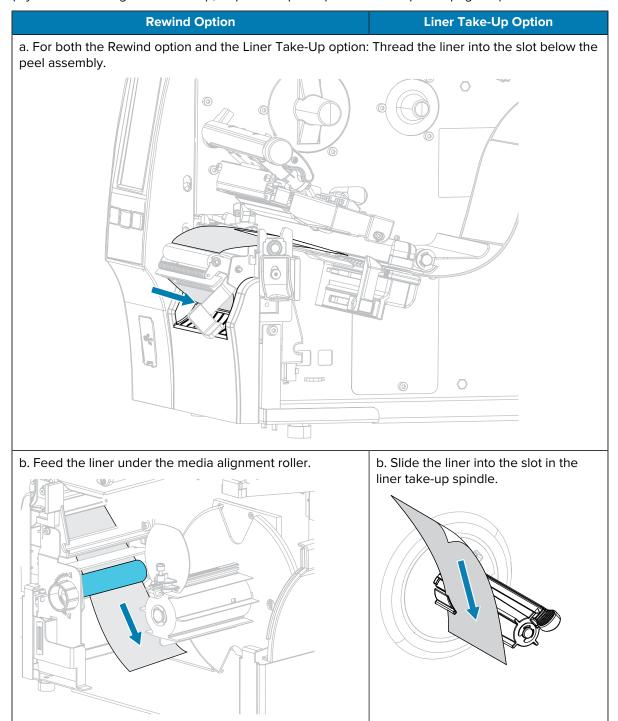
6. Extend approximately 18 in. (500 mm) of media out of the printer. Remove and discard the labels from this exposed media, leaving just the liner.



7. Feed the liner behind the peel assembly. Make sure that the end of the liner falls outside of the printer.



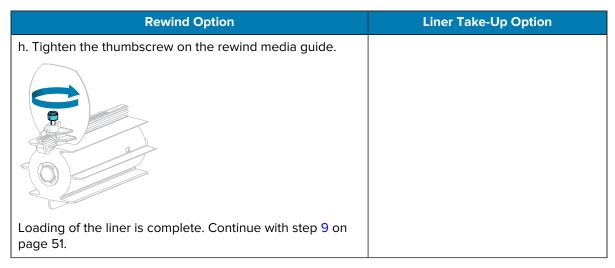
8. Complete this step only if you want to use Peel-Off mode with Liner Take-Up. Your printer must have the Liner Take-Up option or the Rewind option installed. Follow the instructions for your printer option. (If you are not using Liner Take-Up, skip this step and proceed to step 9 on page 51.)



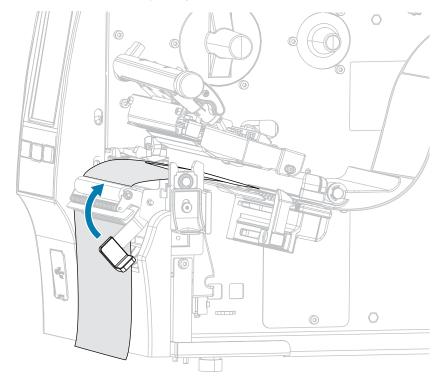
Rewind Option Liner Take-Up Option c. Loosen the thumbscrew on the rewind media guide. c. Push the liner back until it touches the back plate of the liner take-up spindle assembly. d. Slide the rewind media guide all the way out, and then d. Wrap the liner around the liner fold it down. take-up spindle and turn the spindle counterclockwise to tighten the liner. For the Liner Take-Up option, loading of the liner is complete. Continue on to step 9 on page 51. e. Slide an empty core onto the rewind spindle.

Rewind Option	Liner Take-Up Option
f. Wrap the liner around the core as shown, and then turn the rewind spindle to tighten the media.	
Ensure that the edge of the media is flush against the backplate of the rewind spindle.	
g. Fold up the rewind media guide, and then slide it in until it touches the liner.	

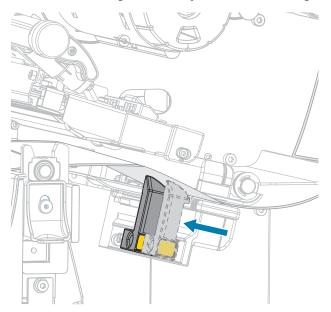
Printer Setup



9. Close the peel assembly using the peel-off mechanism release lever.



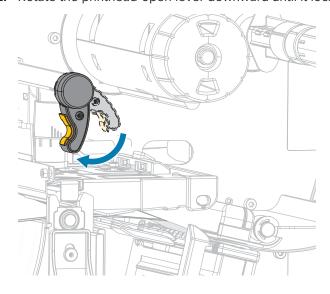
10. Slide in the media guide until it just touches the edge of the media.



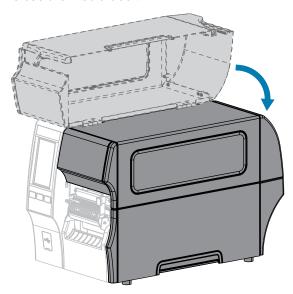
11. Does the media that you are using require ribbon for printing? If you are not sure, see Ribbon on page 11.

If using	Then	
Direct Thermal media (no ribbon needed)	Continue with step 12 on page 52.	
Thermal Transfer media (ribbon needed)	a. If you have not already done so, load ribbon in the printer. (See Loading the Ribbon on page 73.) b. Continue with step 12 on page 52.	
	b. Continue with step 12 on page 52.	

12. Rotate the printhead-open lever downward until it locks the printhead in place.



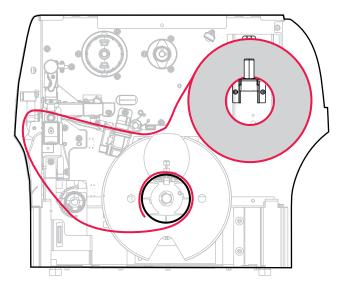
13. Close the media door.



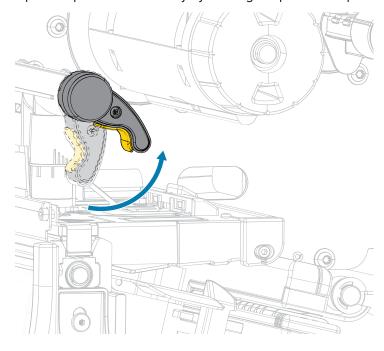
- 14. Set the printer to the appropriate collection method (see Print > Label Position > Collection Method).
- 15. Press PAUSE to exit pause mode and enable printing.The printer may perform a label calibration or feed a label, depending on your settings.
- **16.** For optimal results, calibrate the printer (see Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131).
- **17.** Verify that your printer can print a configuration label by holding both the **FEED** and **CANCEL** keys for 2 seconds.

Media loading in Peel-Off mode is complete.

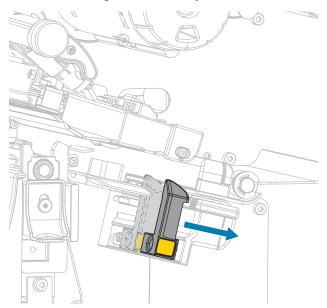
Using Rewind Mode



- **1.** If you have not already done so, follow the instructions in Inserting the Media into the Printer on page 36.
- 2. Open the printhead assembly by rotating the printhead-open lever upward.



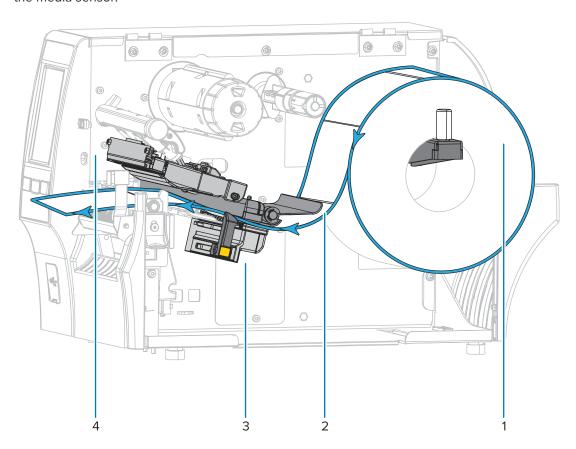
3. Slide the media guide all the way out.



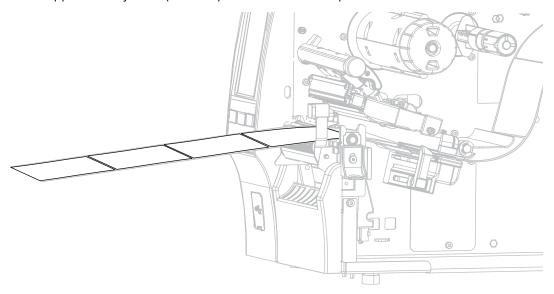


CAUTION: HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

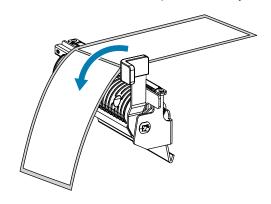
4. From the media hanger (1), feed the media under the dancer assembly (2), through the media sensor (3), and under the printhead assembly (4). Slide the media back until it touches the inside back wall of the media sensor.



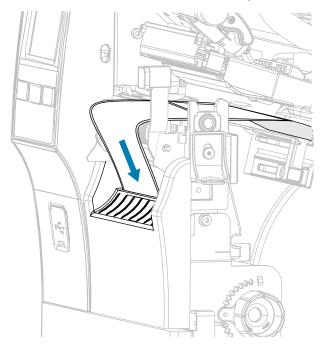
5. Extend approximately 18 in. (500 mm) of media out of the printer.



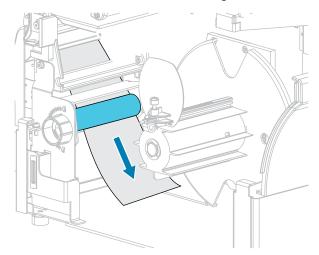
6. Feed the media over the peel assembly.



7. Thread the media into the slot below the peel assembly.



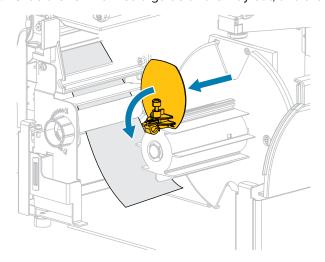
8. Feed the media under the media alignment roller.



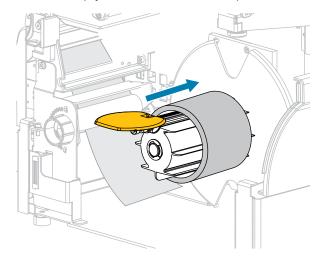
9. Loosen the thumbscrew on the rewind media guide.



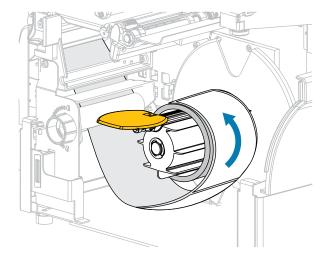
10. Slide the rewind media guide all the way out, and then fold it down.



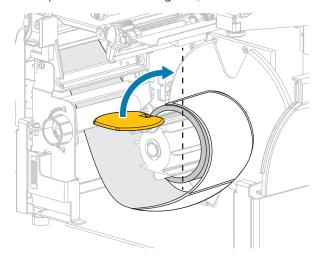
11. Slide an empty core onto the rewind spindle.



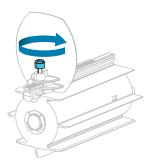
12. Wrap the media around the core as shown and turn the rewind spindle to tighten the media. Ensure that the edge of the media is flush against the backplate of the rewind spindle.



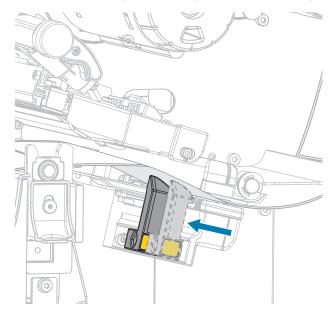
13. Fold up the rewind media guide, and then slide it in until it touches the media.



14. Tighten the thumbscrew on the rewind media guide.



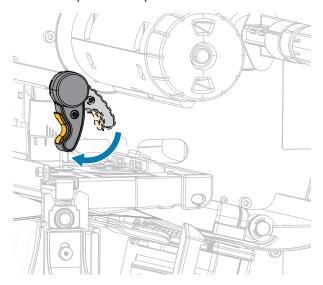
15. Slide in the media guide until it just touches the edge of the media.



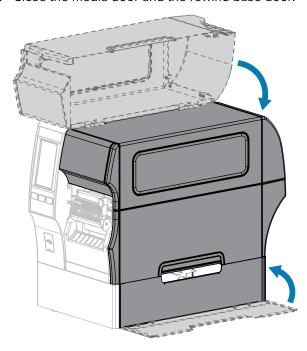
16. Does the media that you are using require ribbon for printing? If you are not sure, see Ribbon on page 11

If using	Then	
Direct Thermal media (no ribbon needed)	Continue with step 17 on page 60.	
Thermal Transfer media (ribbon needed)	If you have not already done so, load ribbon in the printer. (See Loading the Ribbon on page 73.)	
	b. Continue with step 17 on page 60.	

17. Rotate the printhead-open lever downward until it locks the printhead in place.



18. Close the media door and the rewind base door.



19. Set the printer to Rewind mode. (For more information, see Print > Label Position > Collection Method.)

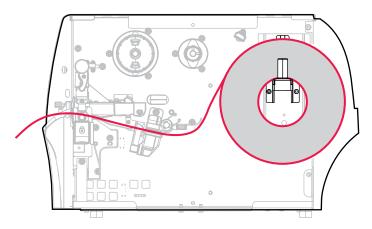
Printer Setup

- **20.** Press **PAUSE** to exit pause mode and enable printing.
 - The printer may perform a label calibration or feed a label, depending on your settings.
- **21.** For optimal results, calibrate the printer. (See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.)
- **22.** Verify that your printer can print a configuration label by holding both the **FEED** and **CANCEL** keys for 2 seconds.

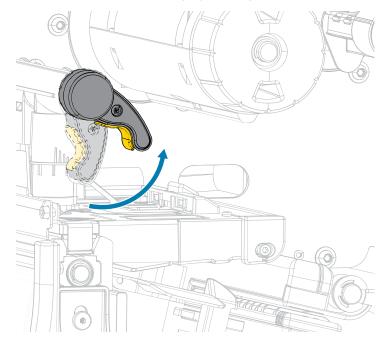
Media loading in Rewind mode is complete.



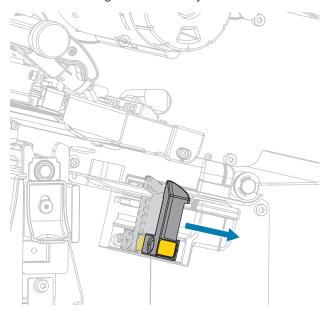
Using Cutter Mode or Delayed Cut Mode



- **1.** If you have not already done so, follow the instructions in Inserting the Media into the Printer on page 36.
- **2.** Open the printhead assembly by rotating the printhead-open lever upward.



3. Slide the media guide all the way out.



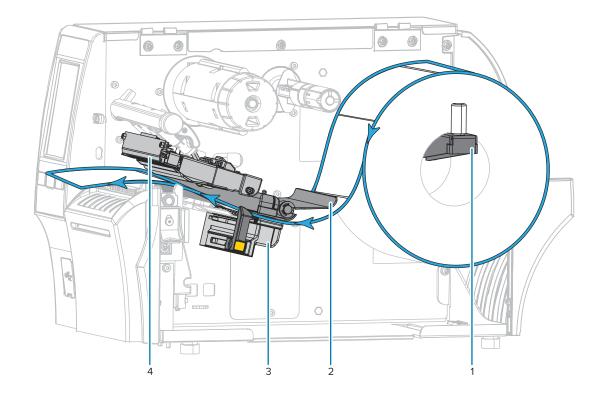


CAUTION: HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

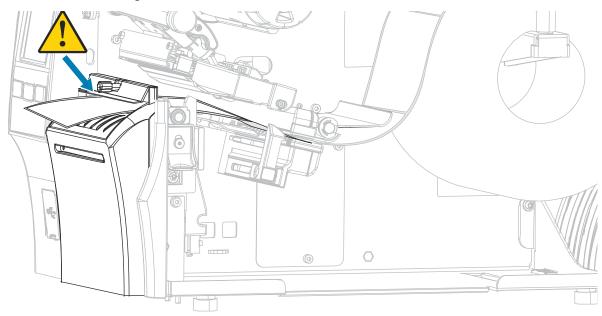
4. From the media hanger (1), feed the media under the dancer assembly (2), through the media sensor (3), and under the printhead assembly (4). Slide the media back until it touches the inside back wall of the media sensor.



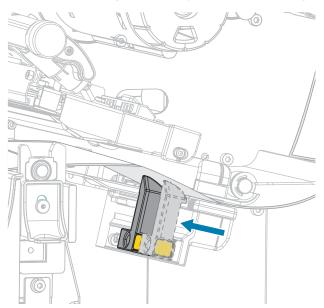
CAUTION: The cutter blade is sharp. Do NOT touch or rub the blade with your fingers.



5. Feed the media through the cutter.



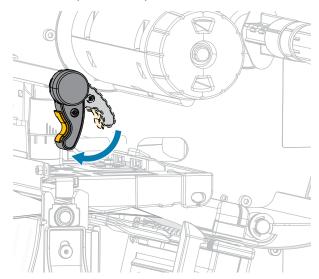
6. Slide in the media guide until it just touches the edge of the media.



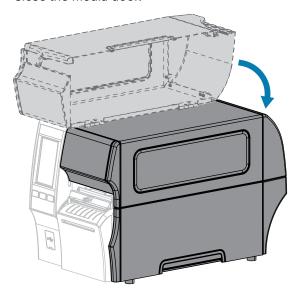
7. Does the media that you are using require ribbon for printing? If you are not sure, see Ribbon on page 11.

If using	Then	
Direct Thermal media (no ribbon needed)	Continue with step 8 on page 65.	
Thermal Transfer media (ribbon needed)	If you have not already done so, load ribbon in the printer. See Loading the Ribbon on page 73. Continue with step 8 on page 65.	

8. Rotate the printhead-open lever downward until it locks the printhead in place.



9. Close the media door.



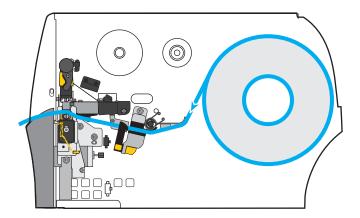
- **10.** Set the printer to the appropriate collection method (for more information, see Print > Label Position > Collection Method).
- **11.** Press **PAUSE** to exit pause mode and enable printing.

The printer may perform a label calibration or feed a label, depending on your settings.

- **12.** For optimal results, calibrate the printer (see Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131).
- **13.** Verify that your printer can print a configuration label by holding both the **FEED** and **CANCEL** keys for 2 seconds.

Media loading in Cutter mode is complete.

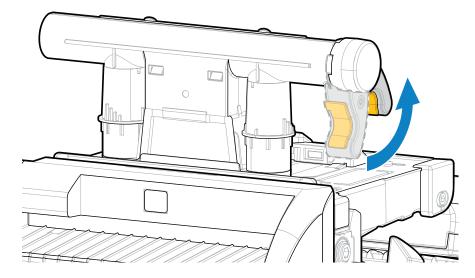
Using Linerless Cut Mode



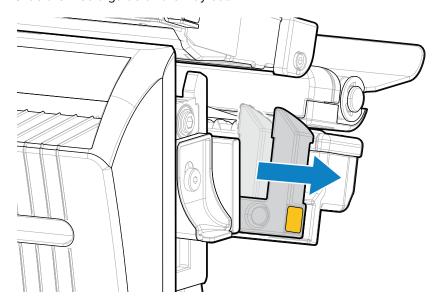


NOTE: Zebra recommends using Zebra ZeroLiner direct thermal linerless media.

- **1.** If you have not already done so, follow the instructions in Inserting the Media into the Printer on page 36.
- **2.** Open the printhead assembly by rotating the printhead-open lever upward.



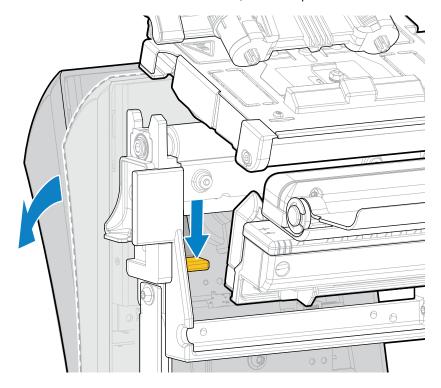
3. Slide the media guide all the way out.





CAUTION: HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

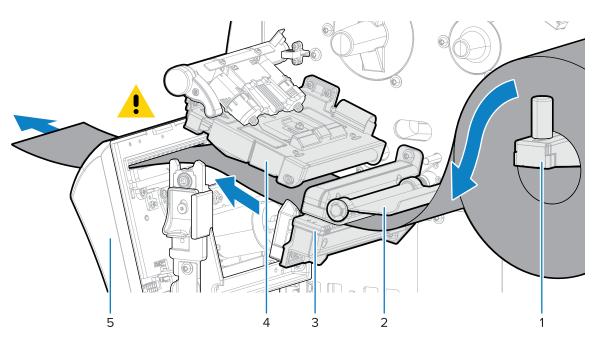
4. Press down on the cutter release lever, and then pivot the cutter forward.



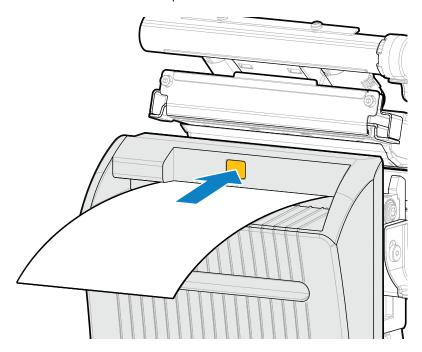
- **5.** Load the media as shown.
 - a) From the media hanger (1), feed the media under the dancer assembly (2), through the media sensor (3), under the printhead assembly (4), and through the cutter (5).



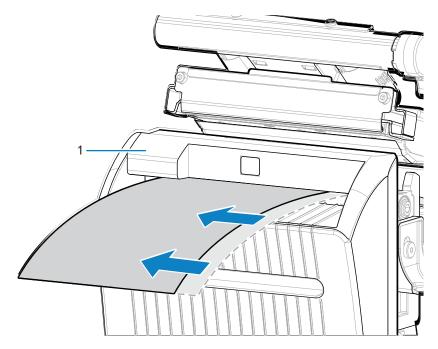
CAUTION: The cutter blade is sharp. Do NOT touch or rub the blade with your fingers.



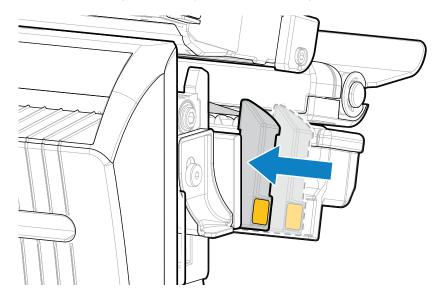
- b) Slide the media back until it touches the inside back wall of the media sensor.
- **c)** Pivot the cutter back, and then apply pressure to the gold square on the front of the cutter to secure the cutter back into place.



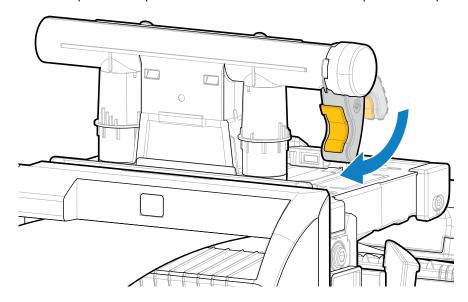
d) Ensure that the inboard edge of the media is fully under the label-taken sensor (1). If it is not, check that the roll of media is placed correctly on the media hanger and adjust the media inward along the entire path.



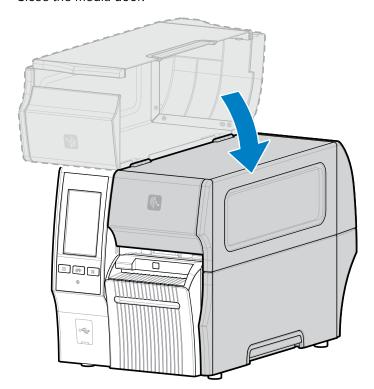
6. Slide in the media guide until it just touches the edge of the media.



7. Rotate the printhead-open lever downward until it locks the printhead in place.

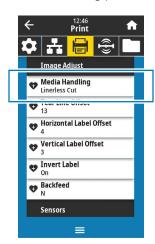


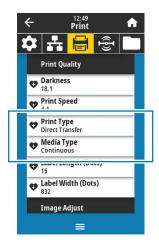
8. Close the media door.



9. For the linerless cutter option to operate as designed, make sure that the firmware version is Link-OS 7.0 or later. Go to Upgrading the Printer Firmware for firmware updating instructions. See the note in the following step for older firmware versions.

10. Set the following parameters through the control panel for linerless operation:





a) Set the printer to Linerless Cut mode by touching Menu > Print > Image Adjust > Media Handling.



NOTE: In the following situations, set the printer to Cutter instead of Linerless Cut:

- · For the linerless cutter to behave as a standard cutter on a printer with older firmware
- · When using standard media (with a liner) with the linerless cutter
 - b) Set the printer to Direct Thermal mode by touching Menu > Print > Print Quality > Print Type.
 - c) Set the printer to Continuous mode by touching Menu > Print > Print Quality > Media Type.
- 11. Press PAUSE to exit pause mode and enable printing.
- The printer may perform a label calibration or feed a label, depending on your settings.

 12. For optimal results, calibrate the printer (see Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page
- **13.** Verify that your printer can print a configuration label by holding both the **FEED** and **CANCEL** keys for 2 seconds.

Media loading in Linerless Cut mode is complete.

Determining the Type of Ribbon to Use



NOTE: This section applies only to printers that have the Thermal Transfer option installed.

What Kind of Ribbon Can I Use?

Rolls of ribbon are wound with the coated surface of ink on the inside of the roll or on the outside of the roll. This printer with a standard Thermal Transfer option uses ribbon that is coated on the outside. An optional ribbon spindle is available to use ribbon that is coated on the inside. Contact your authorized Zebra reseller for ordering information.

If you are unsure which side of a particular roll of ribbon is coated, perform an adhesive test or a ribbon scratch test to determine which side is coated.

Performing an Adhesive Test

If you have labels available, perform the adhesive test to determine which side of a ribbon is coated. This method works well for ribbon that is already installed.

- 1. Peel a label from its liner.
- 2. Press a corner of the sticky side of the label to the outer surface of the roll of ribbon.
- 3. Peel the label off the ribbon.
- 4. Observe the results.

Did flakes or particles of ink from the ribbon adhere to the label?

If ink from the ribbon	Then	
Adhered to the label	The ribbon is coated on the outside and it can be used in this printer.	
Did not adhere to the label	The ribbon is coated on the inside and it cannot be used in the standard printer.	
	To verify this result, repeat the test on the other surface of the roll of ribbon.	

Performing a Ribbon Scratch Test

Perform the ribbon scratch test when labels are unavailable.

- **1.** Unroll a short length of ribbon.
- **2.** Place the unrolled section of ribbon on a piece of paper with the outer surface of the ribbon in contact with the paper.
- 3. Scratch the inner surface of the unrolled ribbon with your fingernail.
- **4.** Lift the ribbon from the paper.

5. Observe the results.

Did the ribbon leave a mark on the paper?

If the ribbon	Then	
Left a mark on the paper	The ribbon is coated on the outside and it can be used in this printer.	
Did not leave a mark on the paper	The ribbon is coated on the inside and it cannot be used in the standard printer.	
	To verify this result, repeat the test on the other surface of the roll of ribbon.	

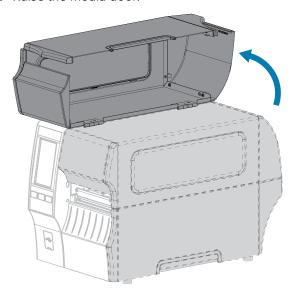
Loading the Ribbon



IMPORTANT: You are not required to turn off the printer power when working near an open printhead, but Zebra recommends it as a precaution. If you turn off the power, you will lose all temporary settings, such as label formats, and you must reload them before you resume printing.

Use ribbon that is wider than the media to protect the printhead from wear. Ribbon must be coated on the outside for use in a standard printer. For more information, see What Kind of Ribbon Can I Use? on page 72.

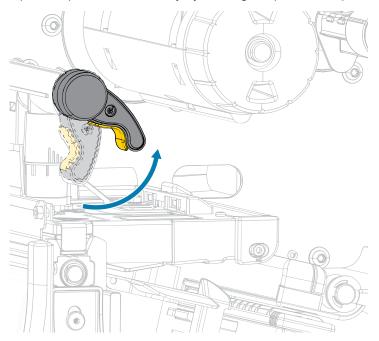
1. Raise the media door.



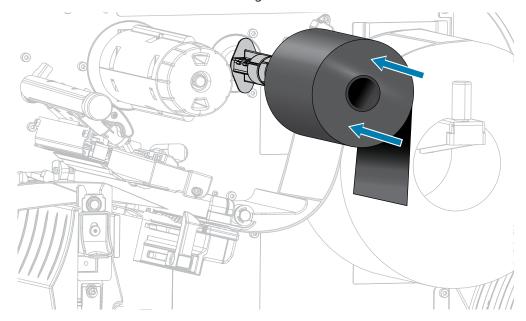


CAUTION: HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

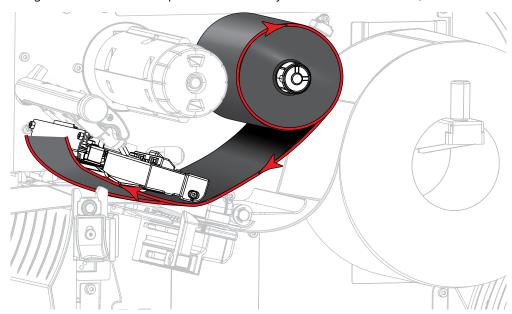
2. Open the printhead assembly by rotating the printhead-open lever upward.



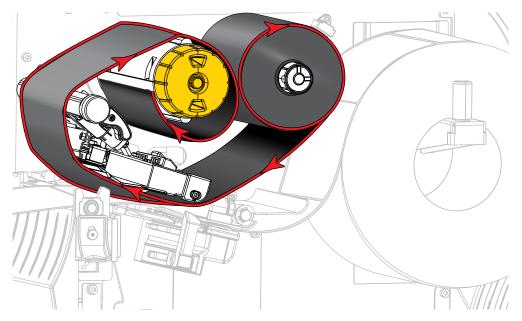
3. Place the roll of ribbon on the ribbon supply spindle with the loose end of the ribbon unrolling as shown. Push the roll back as far as it will go.



4. Bring the ribbon under the printhead assembly and around its left side, as shown.



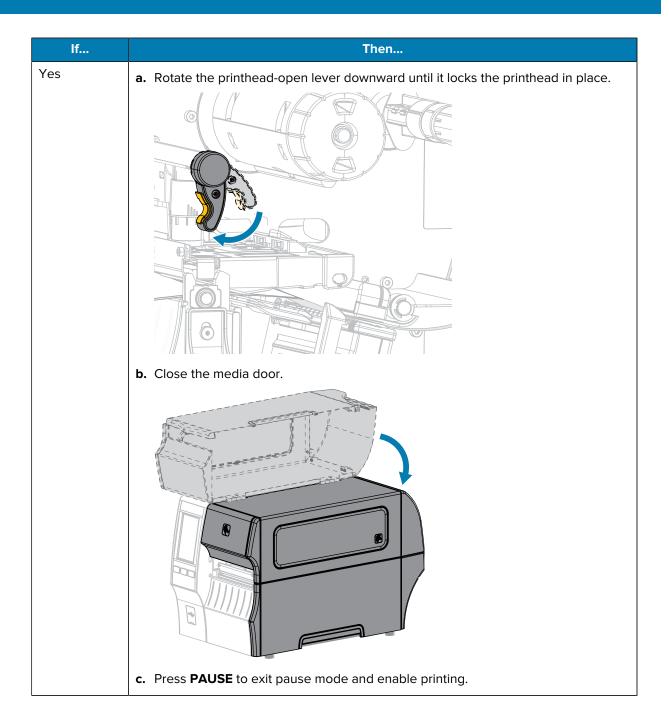
5. With the ribbon tracking as far back as it can under the printhead assembly, wrap the ribbon around the ribbon take-up spindle. Rotate the spindle several turns in the direction shown to tighten and align the ribbon.



6. Is media already loaded in the printer?

lf	Then	
No	Load media in the printer. (See Loading the Media on page 35.)	

Printer Setup



Running the Print Wizard and Printing a Test Label

The Print Wizard configures the printer, prints test labels, and adjusts print quality based on the results of the test labels.



IMPORTANT: When using the Wizards, do not send data to the printer from the host.

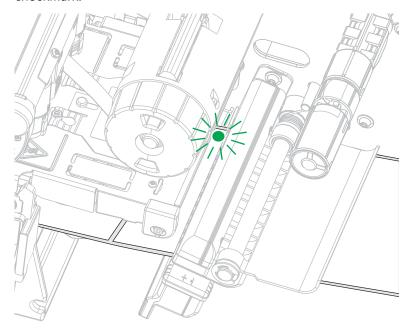
For optimal results, use full-width media running the **Print Wizard** or **Set All Wizard**. If the media is smaller than an image to be printed, the results may be truncated or print across multiple labels.

After you have completed the printer setup procedures and run the printer setup wizard, use this section to print a test label. Printing this label allows you to see if your connection is working and if you need to adjust any of the print settings.

- 1. On the Home screen, touch Wizards > Print > Start Print.
- **2.** Follow the prompts to specify the following information:
 - print type (Thermal Transfer or Direct Thermal)
 - label type (Continuous, Gap/Notch, or Mark)
 - · label width
 - collection method (tear off, peel-off, rewind, cutter, delayed cut, linerless peel, linerless rewind, linerless tear, or applicator)

After you have specified these, the wizard instructs you to load media and then to place a label over the media sensor.

3. Load media so that a label is over the green light from the media sensor, and then touch the checkmark.



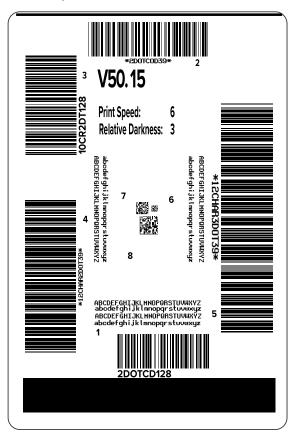
- **4.** At the prompt, close the printhead, and then touch the next checkmark.

 The printer calibrates and then asks if you would like to print a test label.
- **5.** Follow the prompts until the printer completes auto calibration.



6. When asked to print a test label, touch the checkmark.

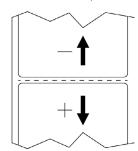
A test label similar to this one prints. If your labels are smaller than the image, only a portion of the test label will print.



- **7.** Examine the position of the label over the tear bar. If necessary, shift the position of the media over the tear-off bar after printing.
 - If the space between labels falls on the tear bar, continue with the next step.
 - If the space between labels does not fall directly on the tear bar, shift the position of the media over the tear bar after printing.

Lower numbers move the media into the printer by the specified number of dots (the tear line moves closer to the edge of the label just printed).

Higher numbers move the media out of the printer (the tear line moves closer to the leading edge of the next label).



Printer Setup

- **8.** Examine the quality of the image on the test label. Is the quality of the barcode and text on the test label acceptable? See Evaluating Barcode Quality on page 160 for assistance.
 - If yes, touch the check mark, and then check what other issues may be affecting your print quality. See Printing or Print Quality Issues on page 176.
 - If no, adjust the print quality manually by changing darkness and speed settings through the printer's menu system, or run the Print Quality Assistance wizard. See Using the Print Quality Assistance Wizard on page 79.

Using the Print Quality Assistance Wizard

- 1. From the last step of the Print wizard, touch **Print Quality Assistance**.
 - The printer prompts for the number of test labels to print. The more labels you choose to print, the more choices that you will have available to decide on label quality. In general, if your test label from the previous wizard was acceptable, a lower number of test labels in this step will probably suffice.
- 2. Select a number of test labels to print.
 - The printer prints the specified number of test labels and prompts you for the preferred test label.
- **3.** Decide which test label is the optimal quality. (Refer to Evaluating Barcode Quality on page 160 for assistance.) If none of the labels are acceptable, use the arrow to back up a screen in the wizard, and select a larger number of test labels.
- **4.** In the list on the display, select the identifier for the test label with the specified quality, and then touch the checkmark.
 - The printer changes the darkness and speed to the levels used on the preferred test label.
- **5.** If necessary, see Printing or Print Quality Issues on page 176 to see what other issues may be affecting your print quality.

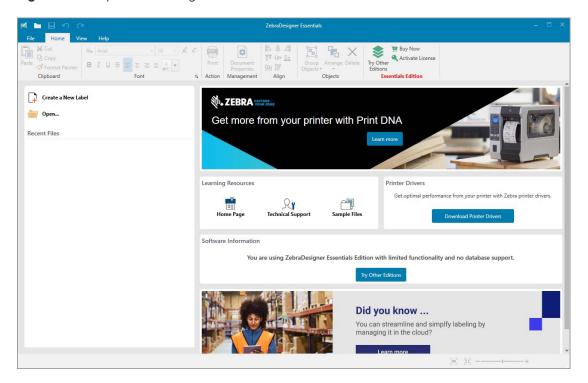
The print setup procedure is complete.

Installing Label Design Software

Select and install the software that you will use to create label formats for your printer.

One option is ZebraDesigner, which you can download from <u>zebra.com/zebradesigner</u>. You can choose to use ZebraDesigner Essentials for free or purchase ZebraDesigner Professional for a more robust toolset.

Figure 2 Sample ZebraDesigner Essentials Screen



ZebraDesigner System Requirements

System requirements for the ZebraDesigner label-format design application are listed below:

- 32-bit or 64-bit Windows 10 desktop editions, Windows 11 desktop editions, Windows Server 2016, Windows Server 2019, Windows Server 2022 operating systems.
- CPU: Intel or compatible x86 family processor
- · Memory: 2 GB or more RAM
- · Hard drive: 1 GB of available disk space
- Microsoft.NET Framework Version 4.7.2
- Display: 1366 × 768 or higher resolution monitor
- ZDesigner printer drivers



NOTE: Remote Desktop Services and Virtual Machines are not supported.

This section assists you with configuration of the printer and adjustments to the printer.

Home Screen

The printer's Home screen shows you the printer's current status and allows you to access the printer's menus. You can rotate the image of the printer 360 degrees to view it from all angles.





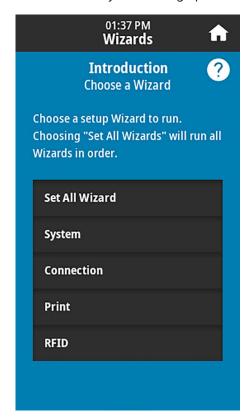


NOTE: If the background color of the Home screen is yellow or red, the printer is in an alert or error state. For more information, see Alert and Error States.

The following items are located on the Home screen **Print Status** tab:

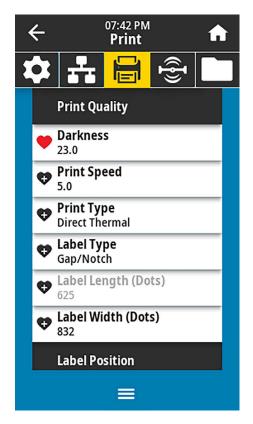
• Menu—Allows you to change the printer settings. See User Menus.

• Wizards—Allows you to change printer settings by going through prompts. See Printer Wizards.



• Shortcuts—Allows you to quickly access the most recent menu items and to save your favorites. Touch the darkened heart icon next to a menu item to save it to your list of favorites. Items in the favorites are shown in the order in which they were saved.





Changing Printer Settings

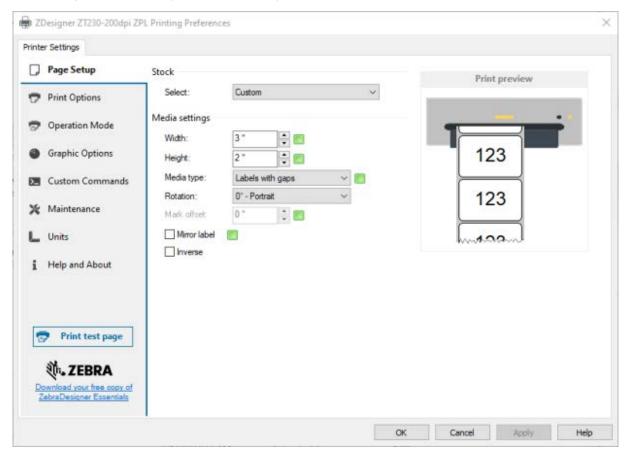
This section presents the printer settings that you can change and identifies tools for changing them. These tools include the following:

- The Windows driver installed previously. (See Changing Printer Settings through the Windows Driver on page 84 for more information.)
- The printer wizards. (See Printer Wizards on page 84.)
- The printer's user menus (See User Menus on page 85 for more information.)
- · Zebra Printer Setup Utilities:
 - Windows computers
 - Android devices
 - Apple devices
- ZPL and Set/Get/Do (SGD) commands (See the Zebra Programming Guide for more information.)
- The printer's web pages when the printer has an active wired or wireless print server connection (See the ZebraNet Wired and Wireless Print Servers User Guide for more information.)

Changing Printer Settings through the Windows Driver

- 1. From the Windows Start Menu, go to Printers & Scanners.
- 2. Click your printer in the list of available printers, and then click Manage.
- 3. Click Printing Preferences.

The ZDesigner window for your printer displays.



4. Change the settings as desired, and then click OK.

Printer Wizards

Printer wizards walk you through the setup process for various printer settings and features.

The following wizards are available:

- Set All Wizard—runs all the wizards in sequence.
- System Wizard—sets up non-print related operating system settings.
- Connection Wizard—configures the printer's connectivity options.
- Print Wizard—configures key printing parameters and features. See Running the Print Wizard and Printing a Test Label on page 77.
- RFID Wizard—sets up the RFID subsystem's operations.

On the Home screen, touch **Wizards** to see the available options.

For more information about individual settings set by any of the wizards, see User Menus on page 85.





IMPORTANT:

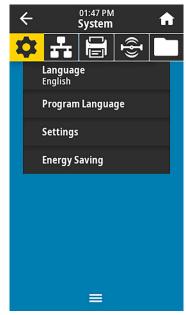
When using the Wizards, do not send data to the printer from the host.

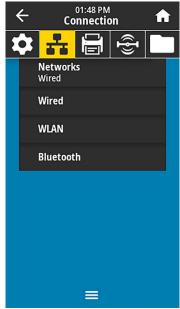
For optimal results, use full-width media running Print Wizard or Set All Wizards. If the media is shorter than an image to be printed, the image may be truncated or print across multiple labels.

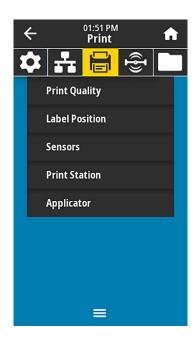
User Menus

Use the printer's user menus to configure the printer as needed.

For detailed information on each of these menus, see System Menu on page 87, Connection Menu on page 95, Print Menu on page 110, RFID Menu on page 121, and Storage Menu on page 128.









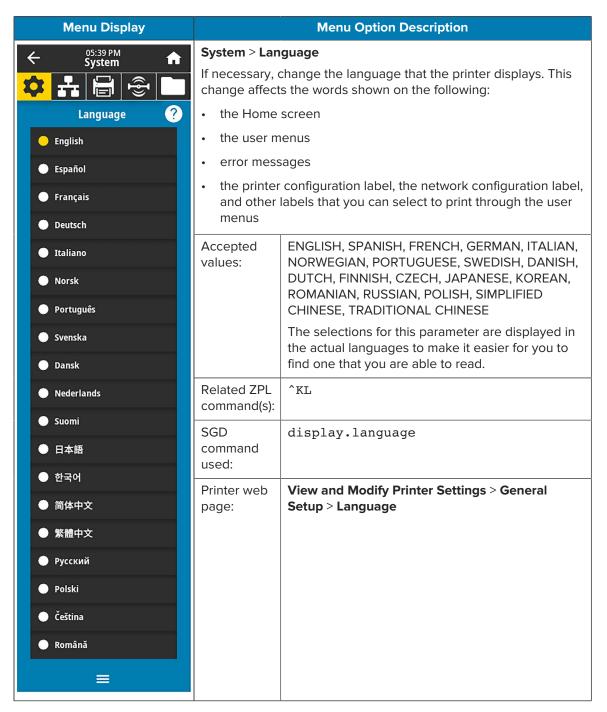


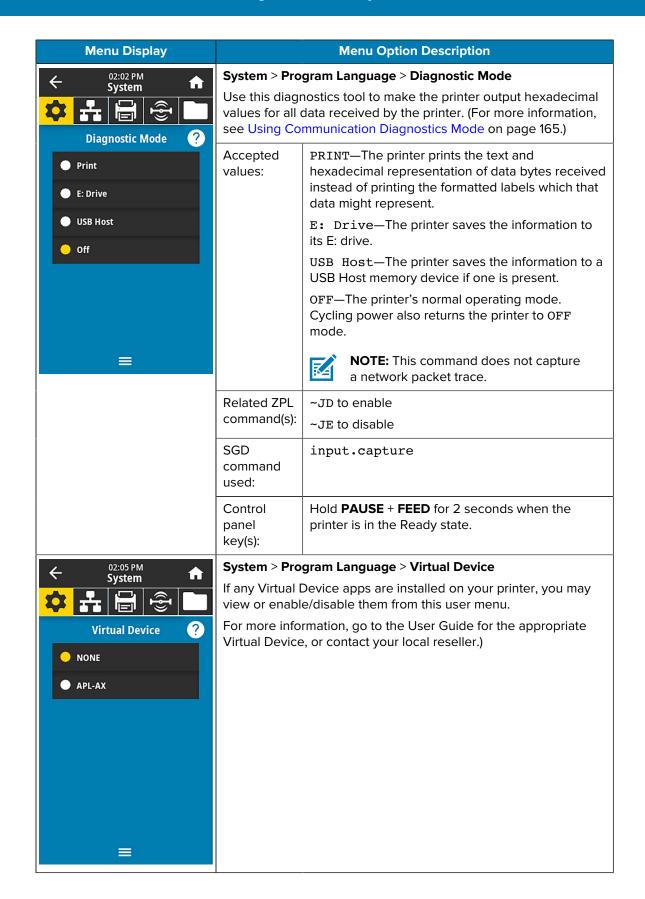
You can modify printer settings through the user menus or optionally using the methods listed below. (The user menu descriptions in this section include information on these optional methods where applicable.)

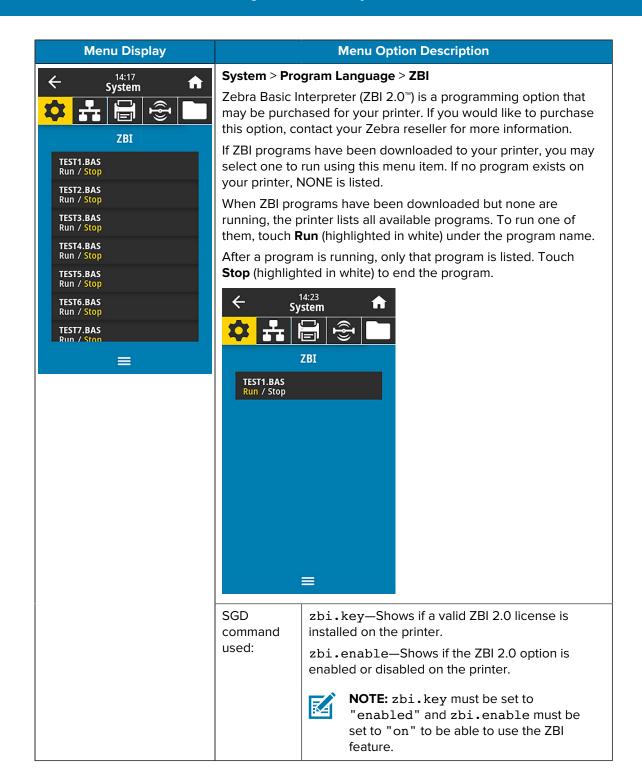
- ZPL and Set/Get/Do (SGD) commands. (See the Zebra Programming Guide at <u>zebra.com/manuals</u> for more information.)
- The printer's web pages, in cases where the printer has an active wired or wireless print server connection. (See the ZebraNet Wired and Wireless Print Servers User Guide at <u>zebra.com/manuals</u> for more information.)

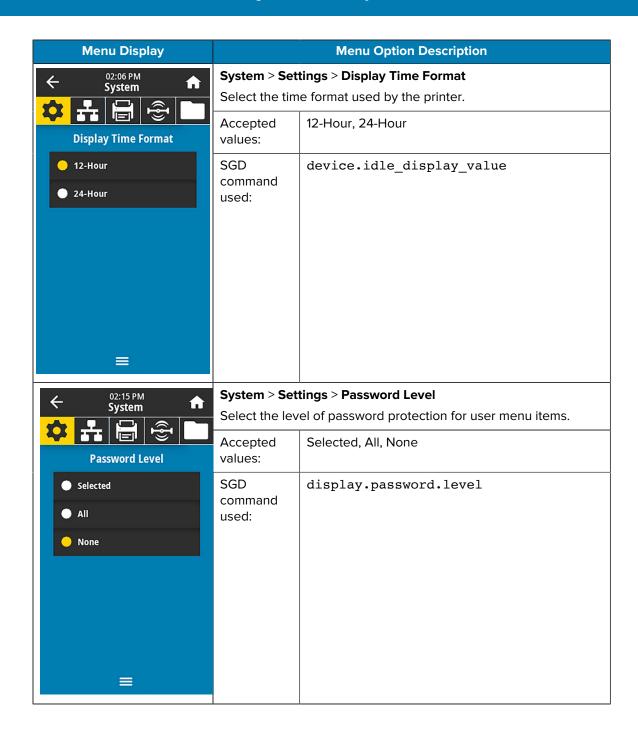
You can also use the printer's task wizards to change some settings (see Printer Wizards on page 84).

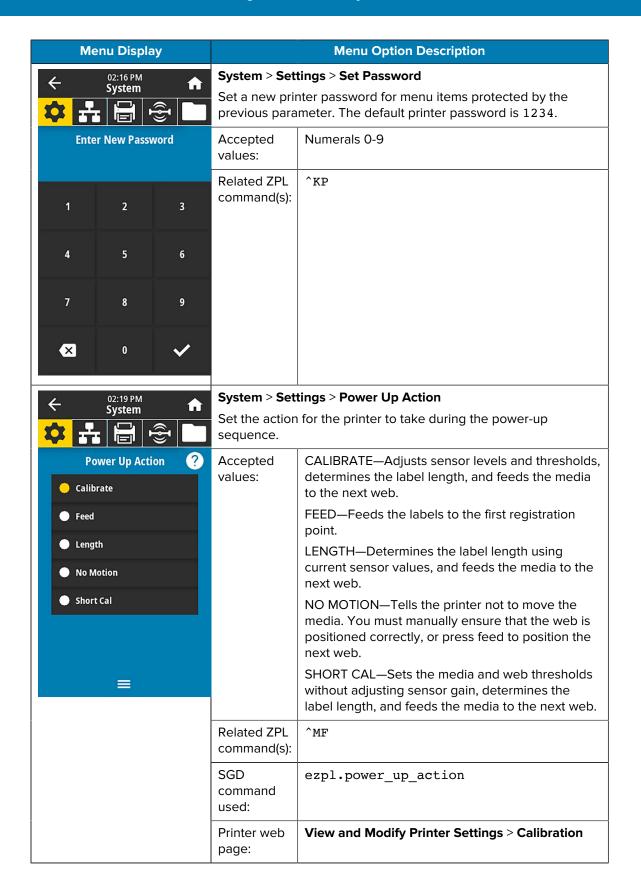
System Menu

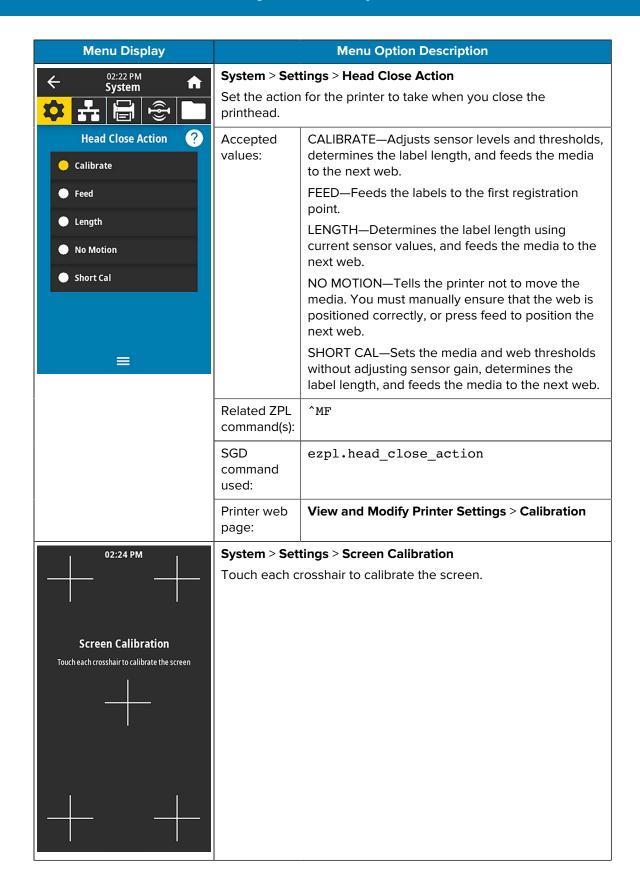








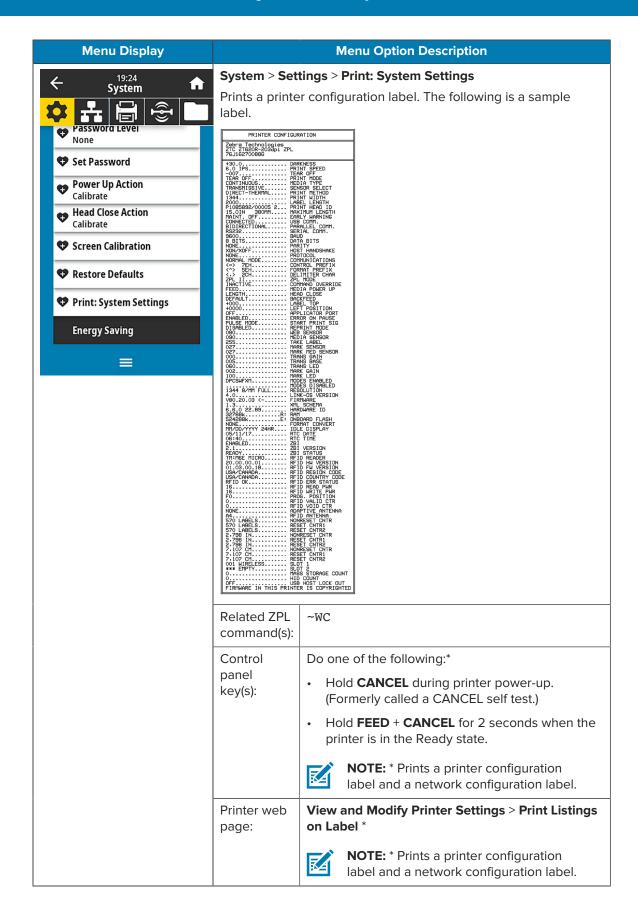


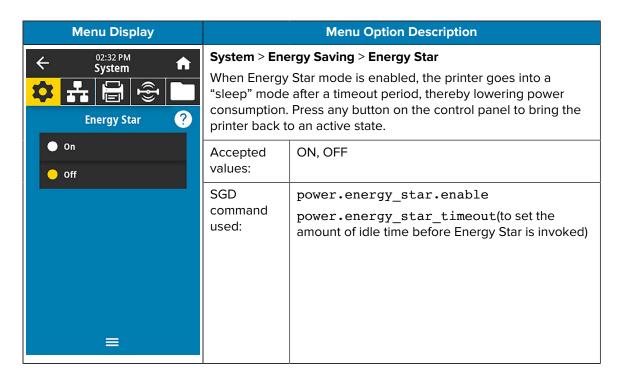


Menu Display	Menu Option Description		
← 02:30 PM system ♠	System > Settings > Restore Defaults		
Restore Defaults Restore Printer	Restore specific printer, print server, and network settings back to the factory defaults. Use care when loading defaults because you will need to reload all settings that you changed manually. This menu item is available through two user menus with different default values for each.		
Restore Network	Accepted	PRINTER—Restores all printer settings other than	
Restore Last Saved	values:	the network settings back to the factory defaults. Use care when loading defaults because you	
restore Last Saveu		will need to reload all settings that you changed manually.	
		NETWORK—Reinitializes the printer's wired or wireless print server. With a wireless print server, the printer also re-associates with your wireless network.	
=		LAST SAVED—Loads settings from the last permanent save.	
	Related ZPL command(s):	PRINTER— ^JUF	
		NETWORK— ^JUN	
		LAST SAVED— ^JUR	
	Control panel key(s):	PRINTER—Hold FEED + PAUSE during printer power-up to reset the printer parameters to factory values.	
		NETWORK—Hold CANCEL + PAUSE during printer power-up to reset the network parameters to factory values.	
		LAST SAVED—N/A	
	Printer web page:	PRINTER—View and Modify Printer Settings > Restore Default Configuration	
		NETWORK—Print Server Settings > Reset Print Server	
		LAST SAVED—View and Modify Printer Settings > Restore Saved Configuration	

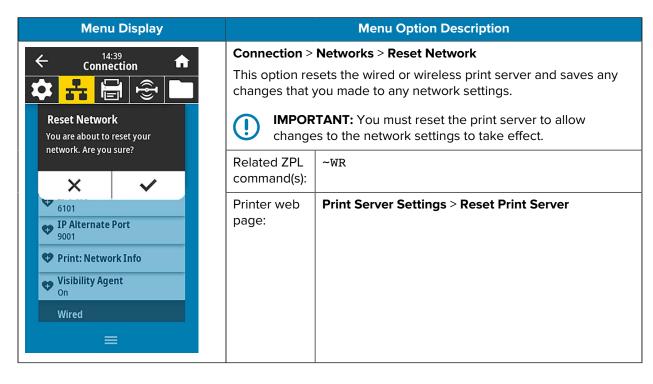
0925 IH-8906VND

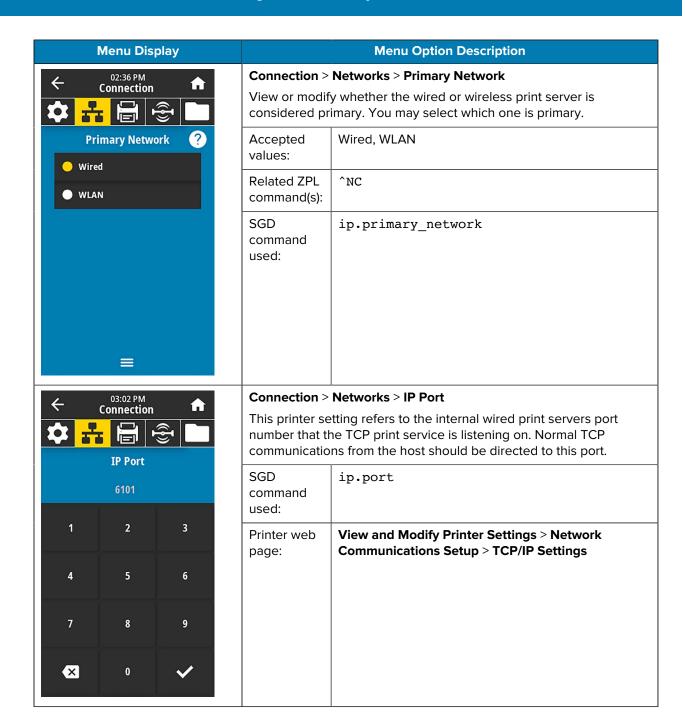
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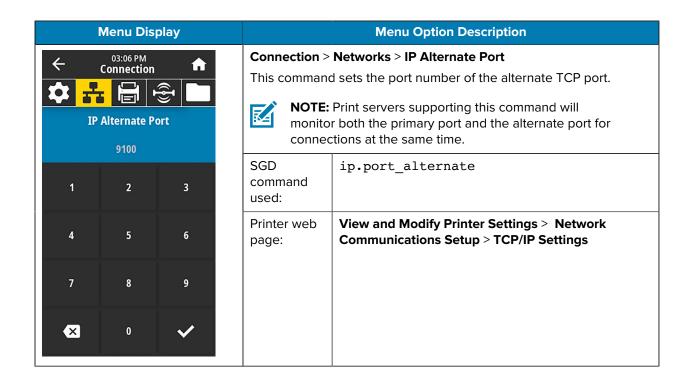


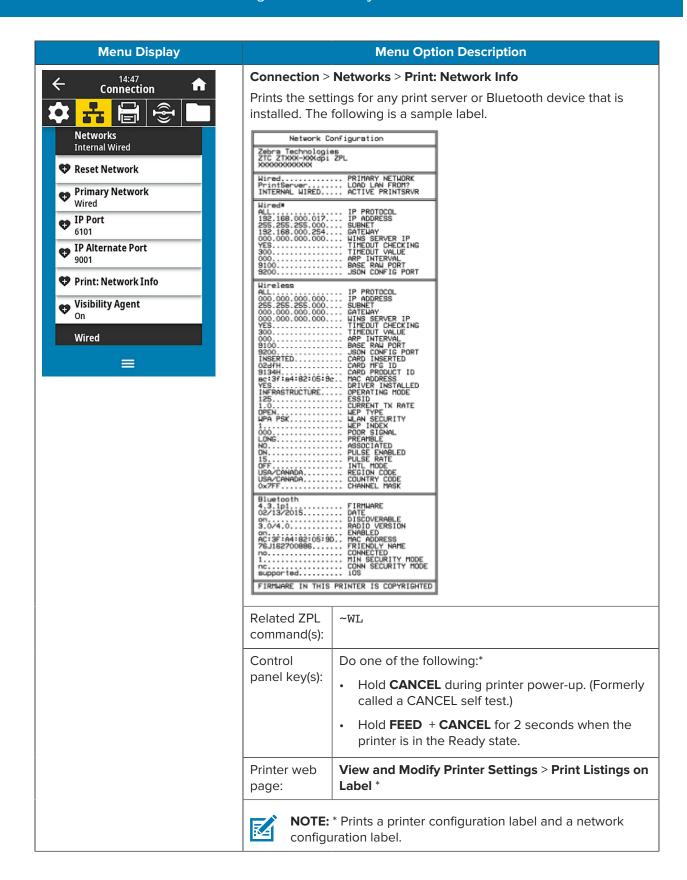


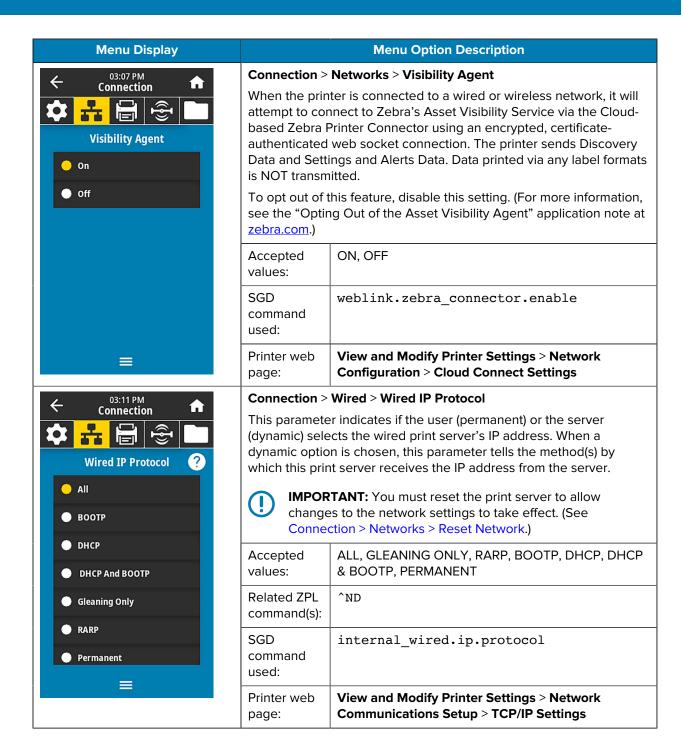
Connection Menu

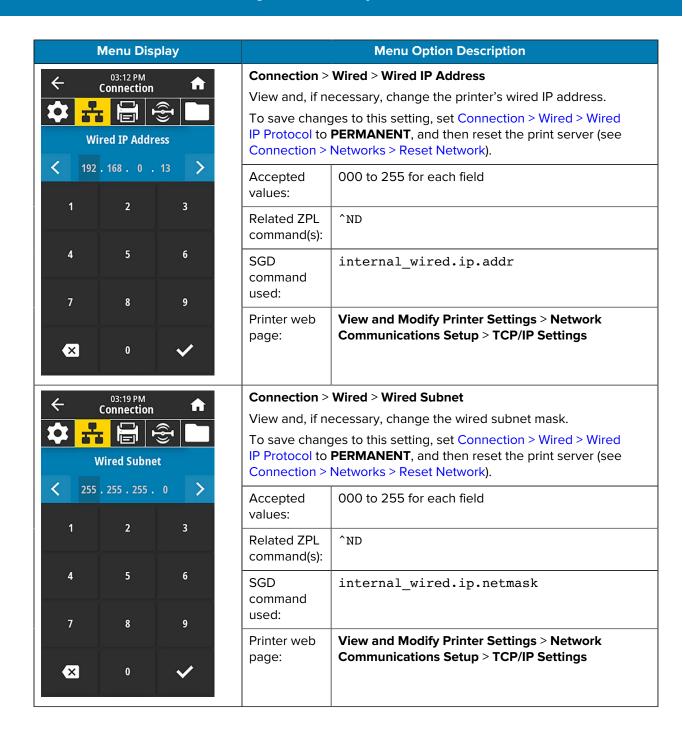


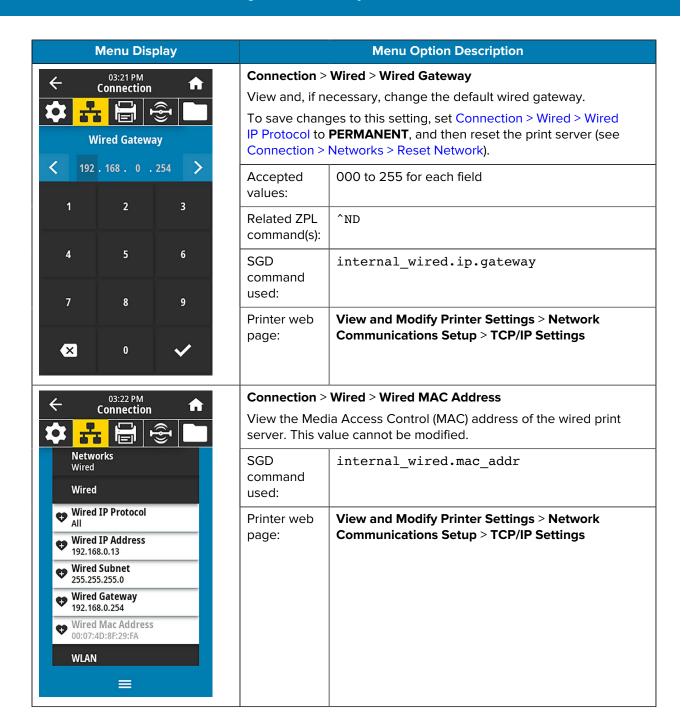




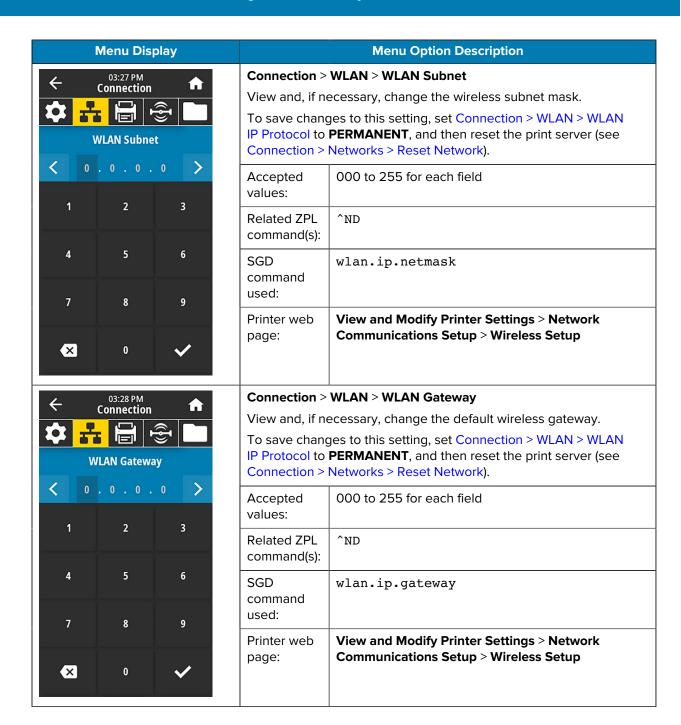


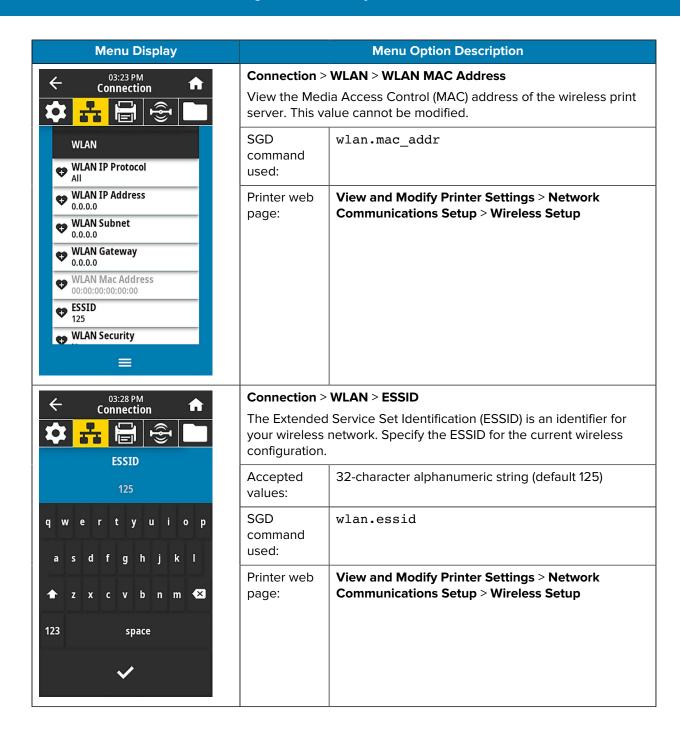




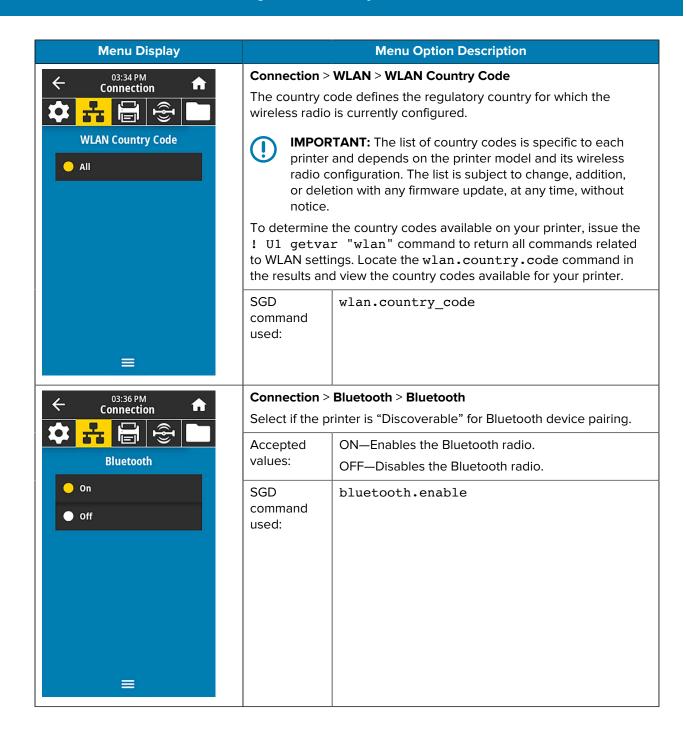


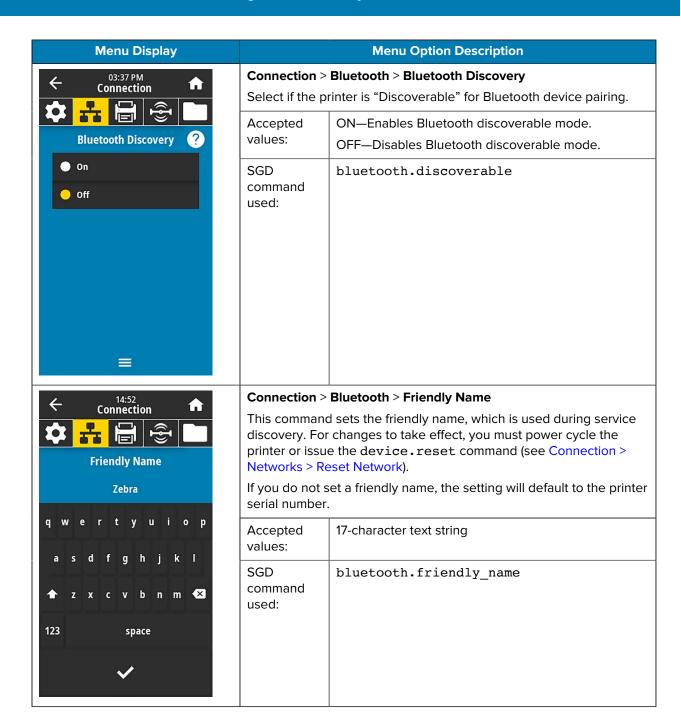


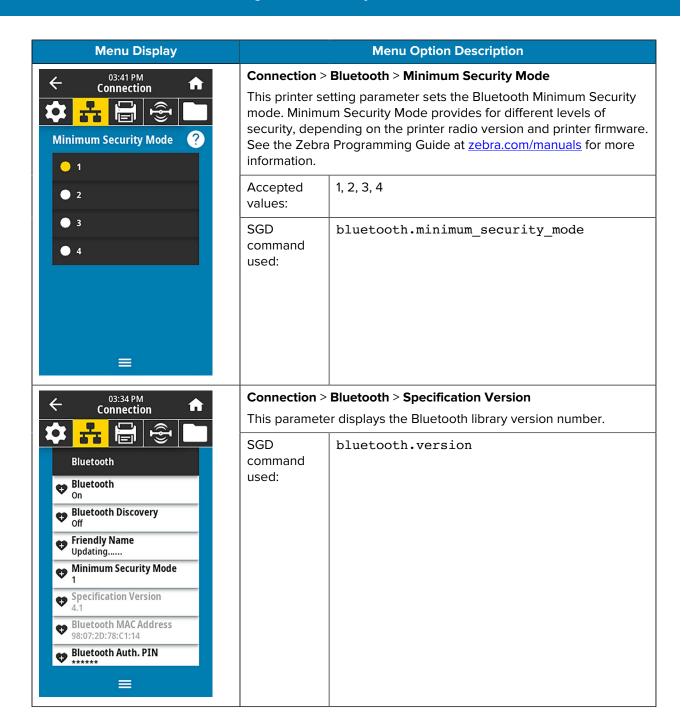


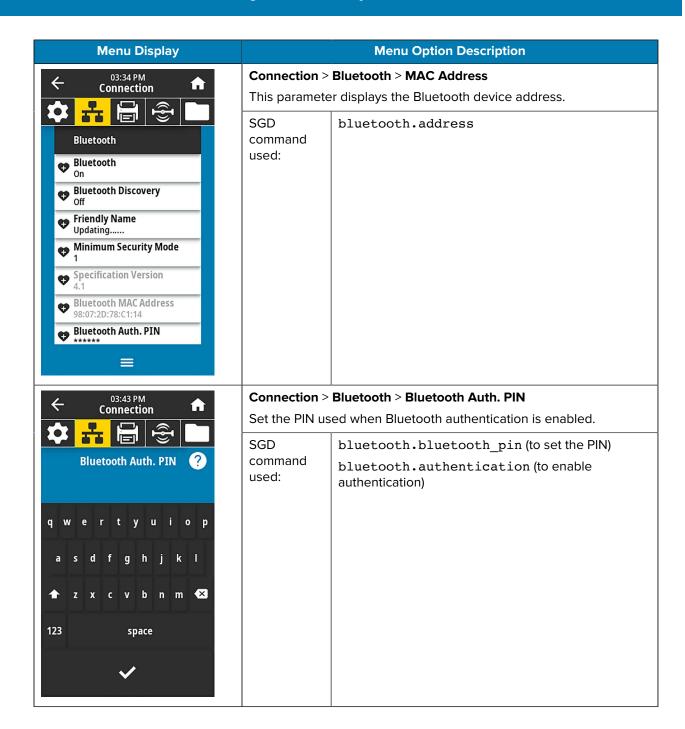


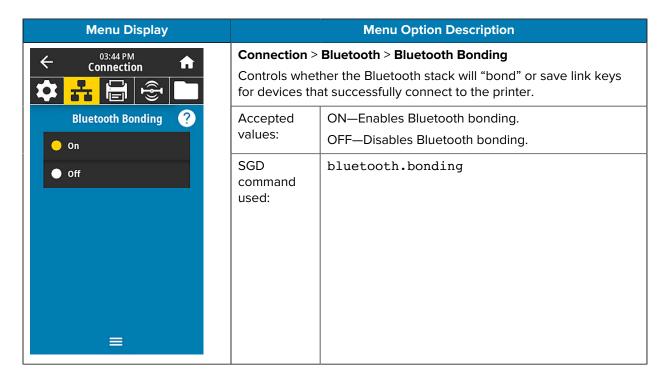








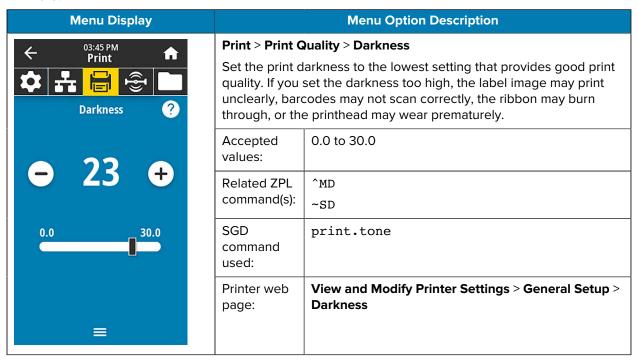


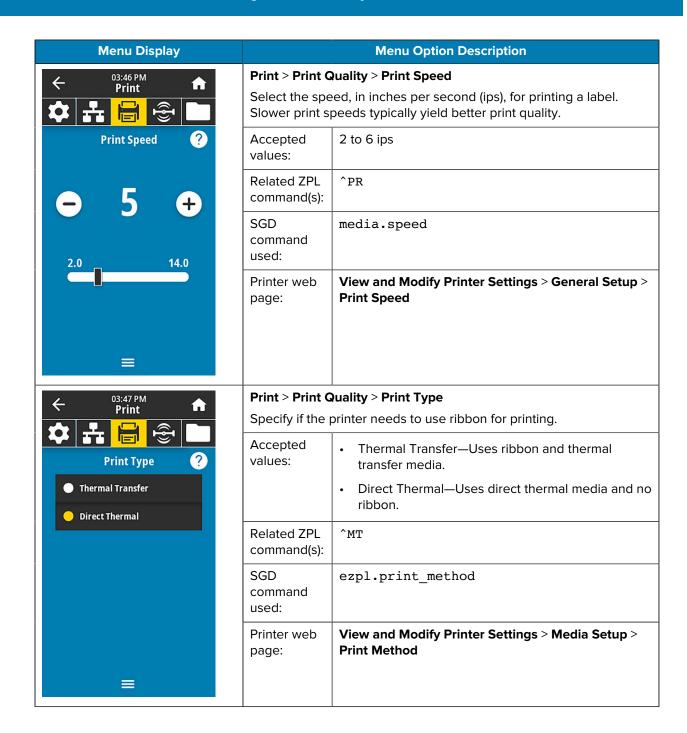


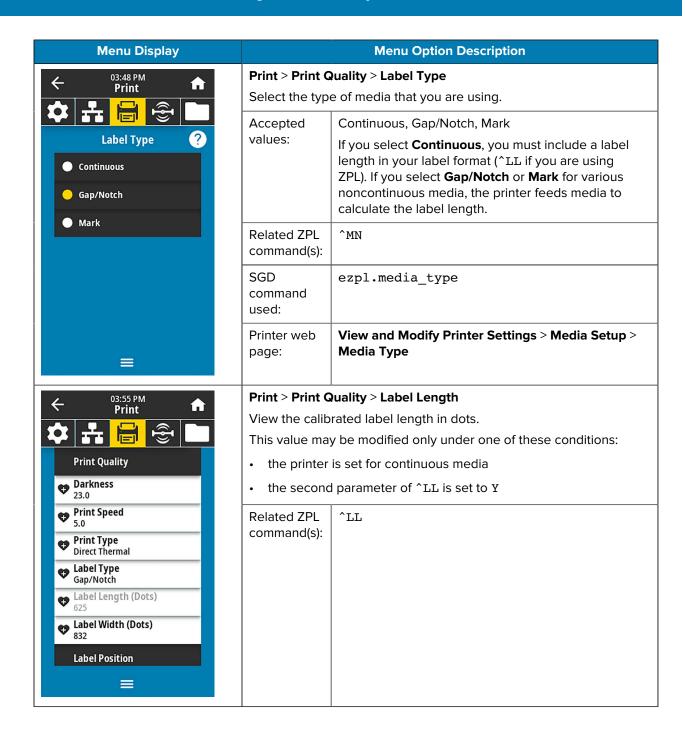
Print Menu

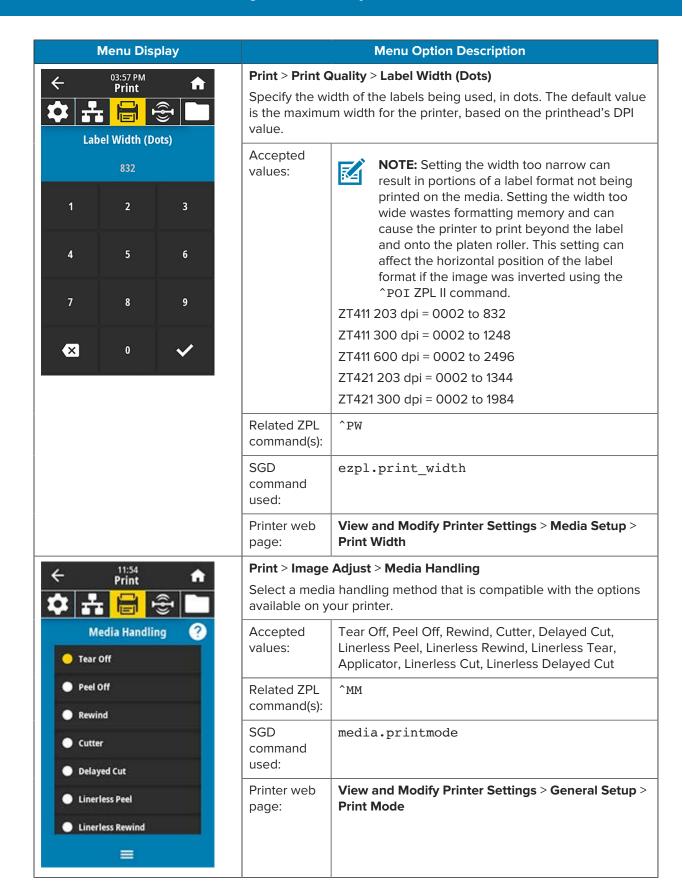


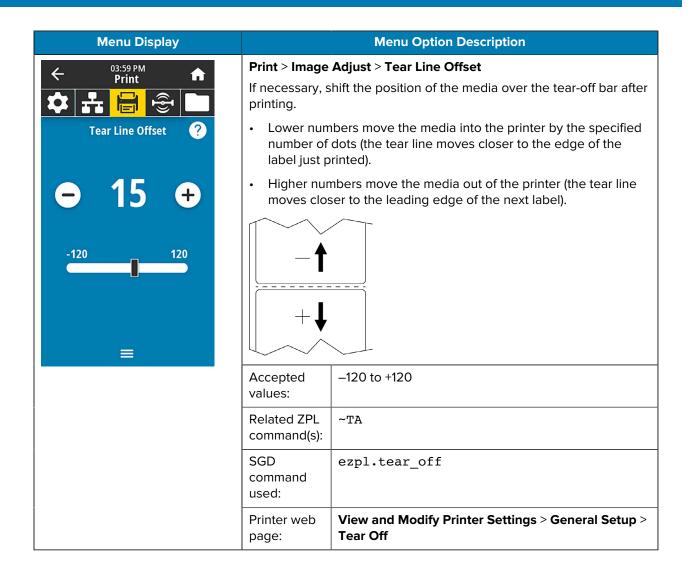
NOTE: if your printer's display does not match the items in this section, update the printer firmware.

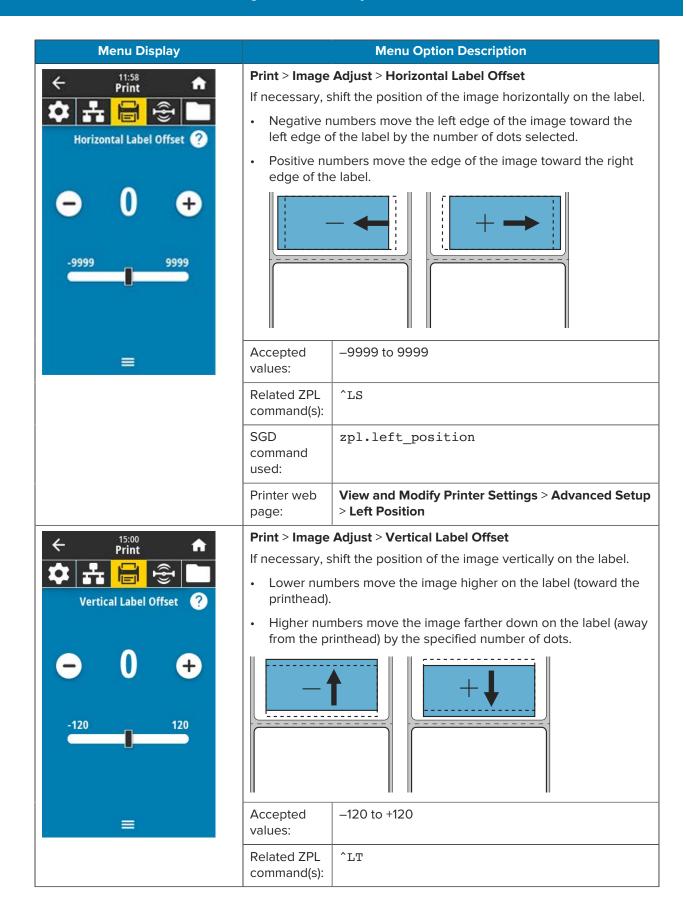




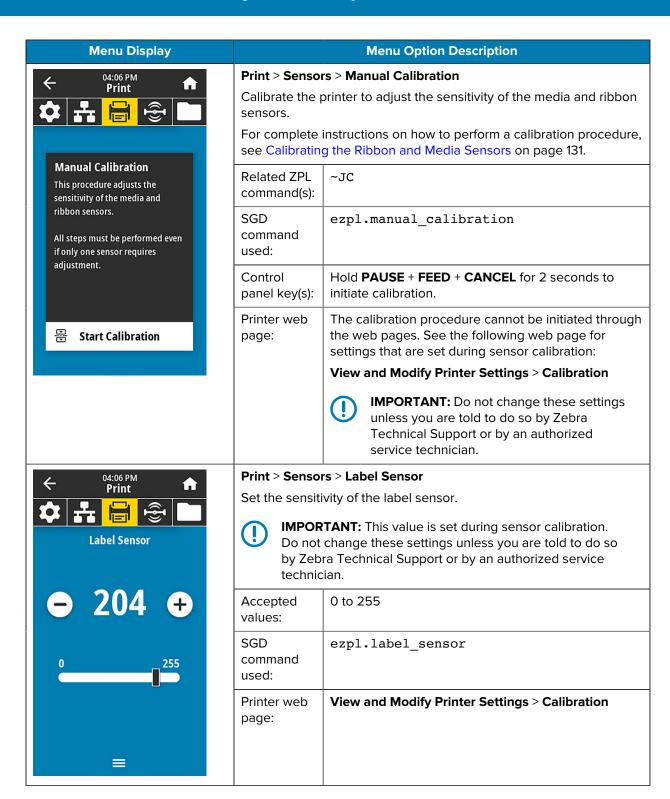


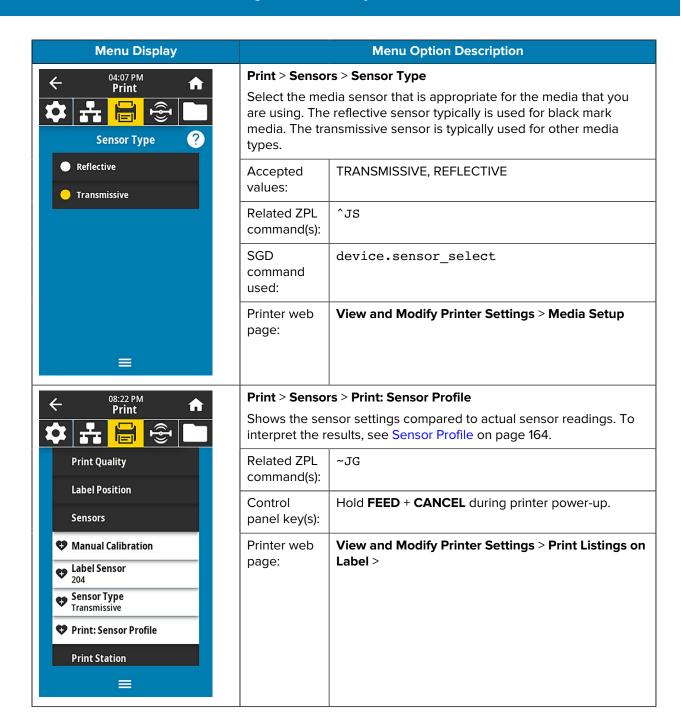


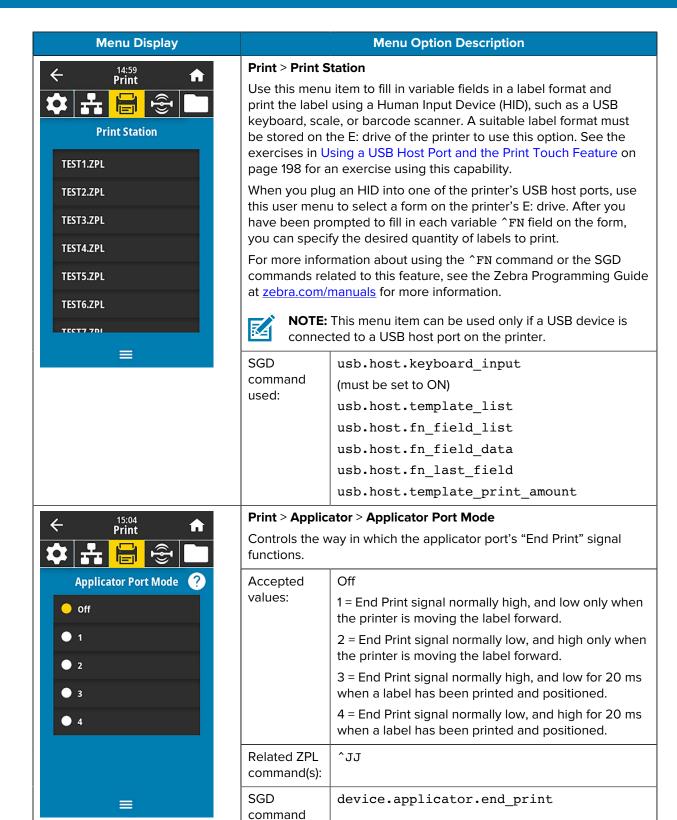




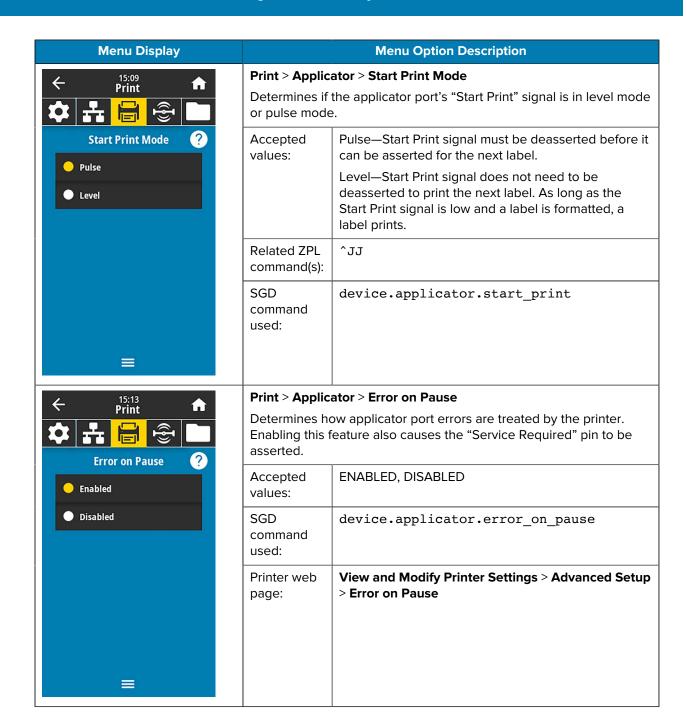
Menu Display	Menu Option Description		
	SGD command used:	zpl.label_top	
	Printer web page:	View and Modify Printer Settings > General Setup > Label Top	
← 15:05	Print > Image Adjust > Invert Label		
Print T	When this is on, the label orientation is inverted.		
Invert Label	Accepted values:	On, Off	
on off	Related ZPL command(s):	^PO	
← 09:09 ↑	Print > Image Adjust > Backfeed		
	Specify the ba	ckfeed order in relation to printing	
Backfeed	Accepted values:	N = normal — 90 percent backfeed after label is printed	
• N		A = 100 percent backfeed after printing and cutting	
● A		O = off — turn backfeed off completely	
• 0		B = 0 percent backfeed after printing and cutting, and 100 percent before printing the next label	
• в		10 to 90 = percentage value	
● 10	Related ZPL	~JS	
	command(s):		
20			
● 30			

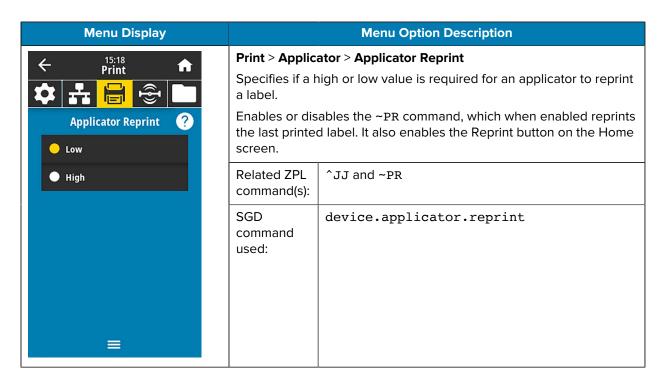




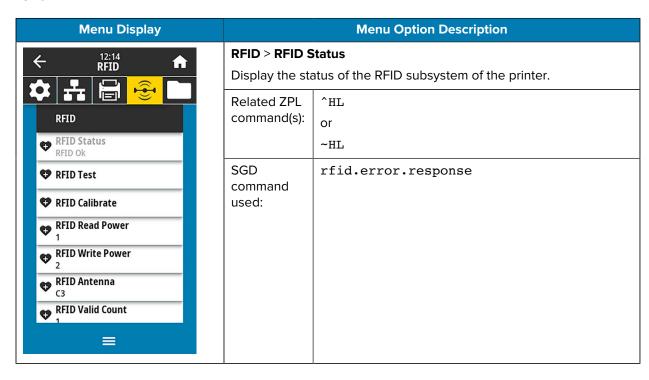


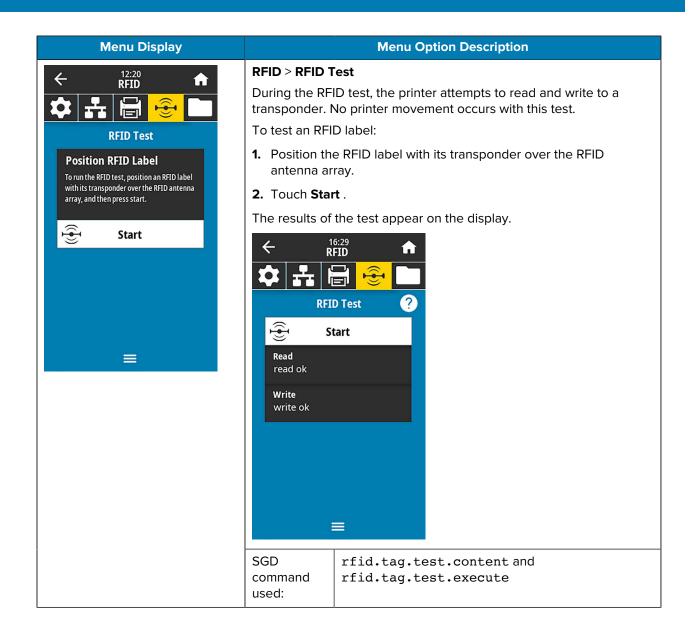
used:

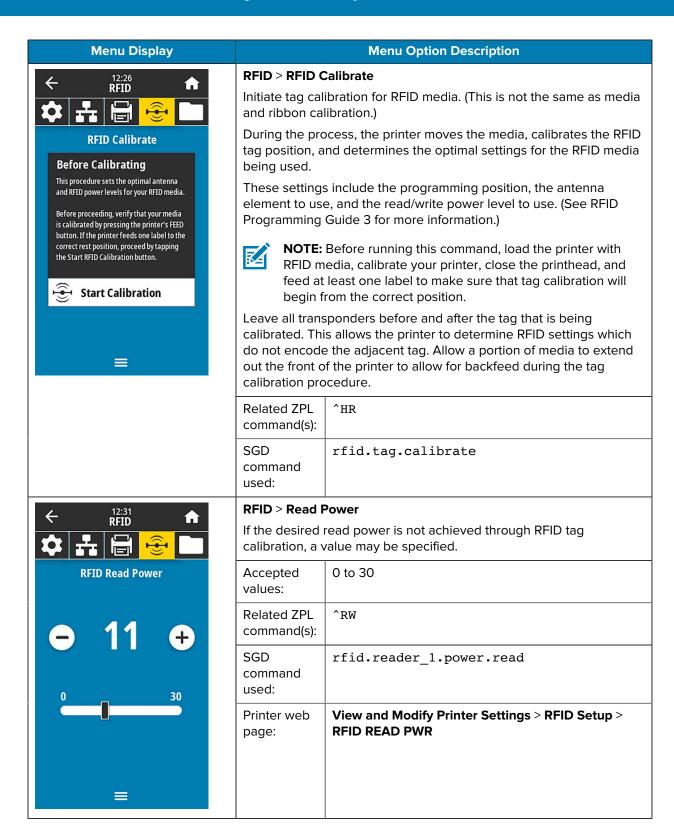


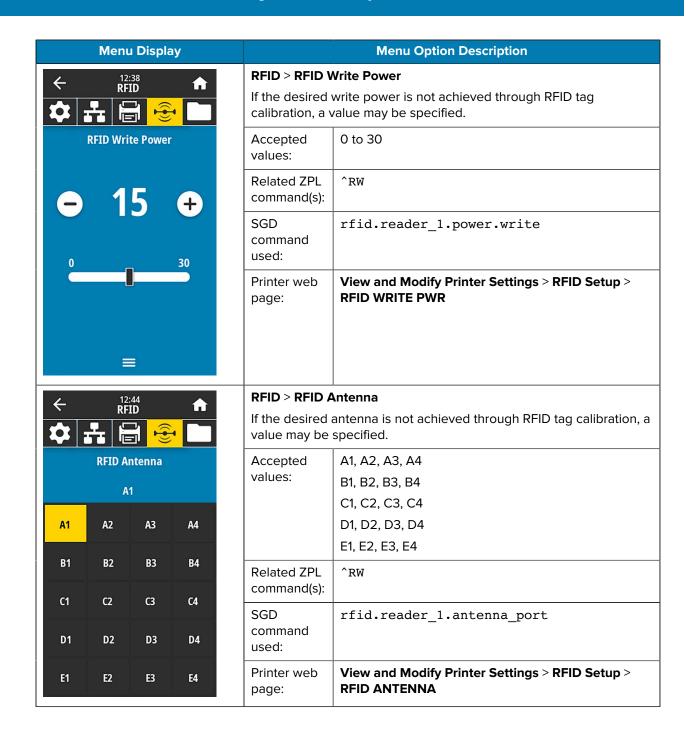


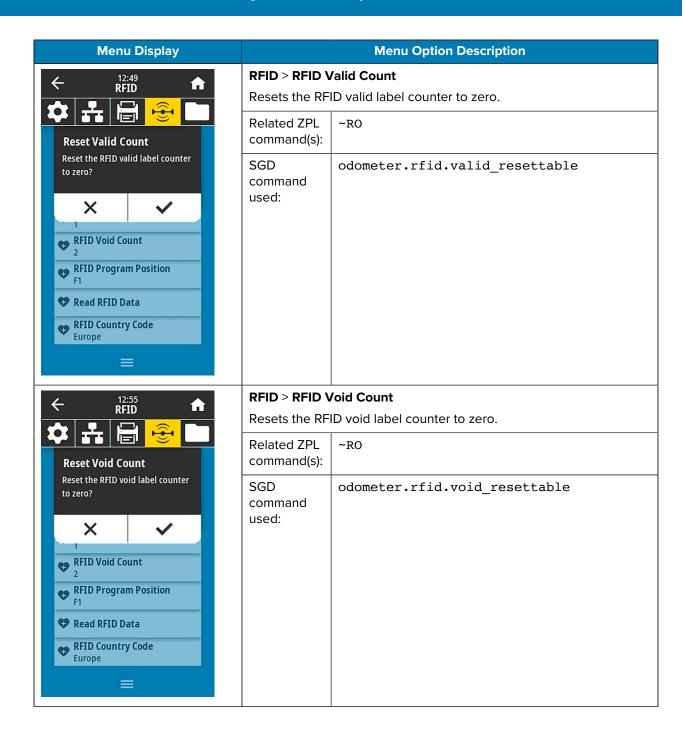
RFID Menu

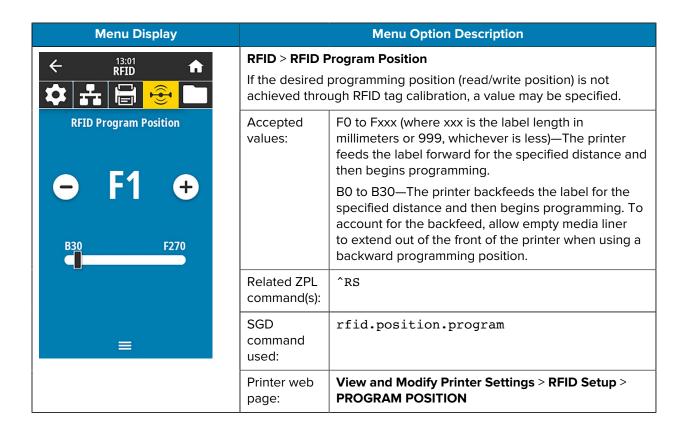


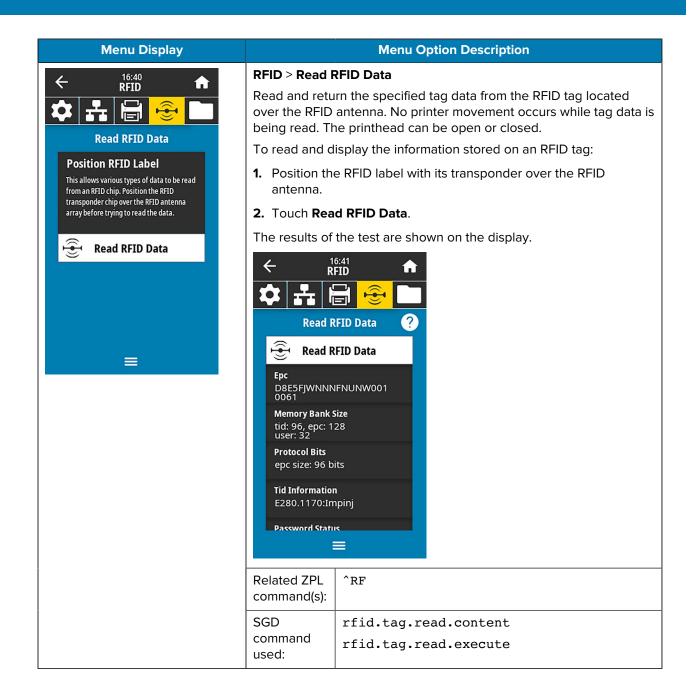




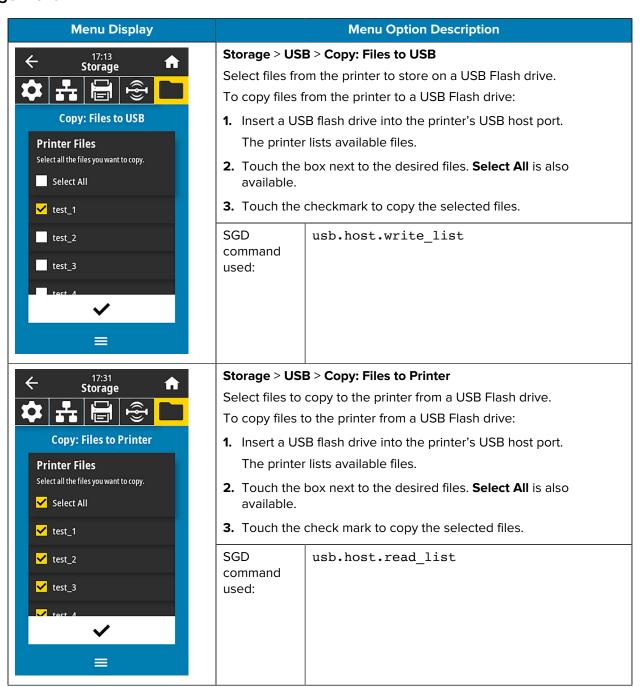


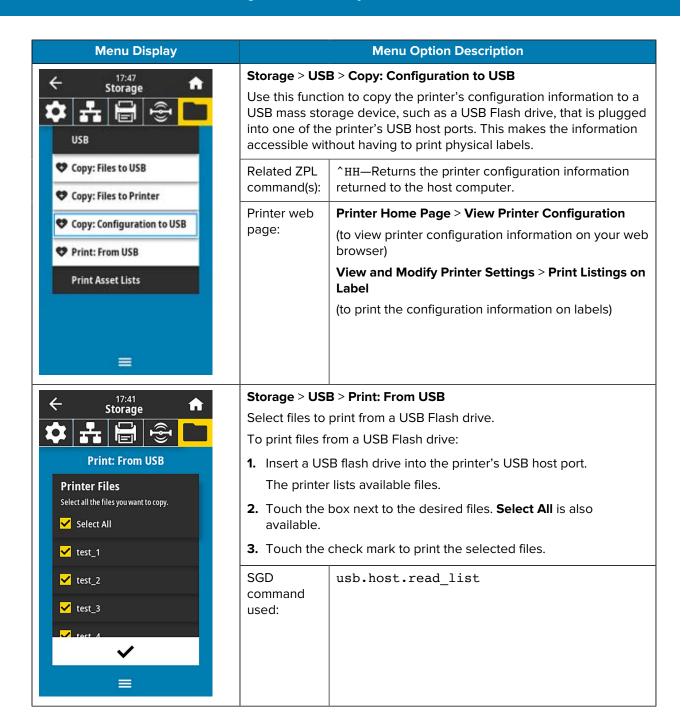


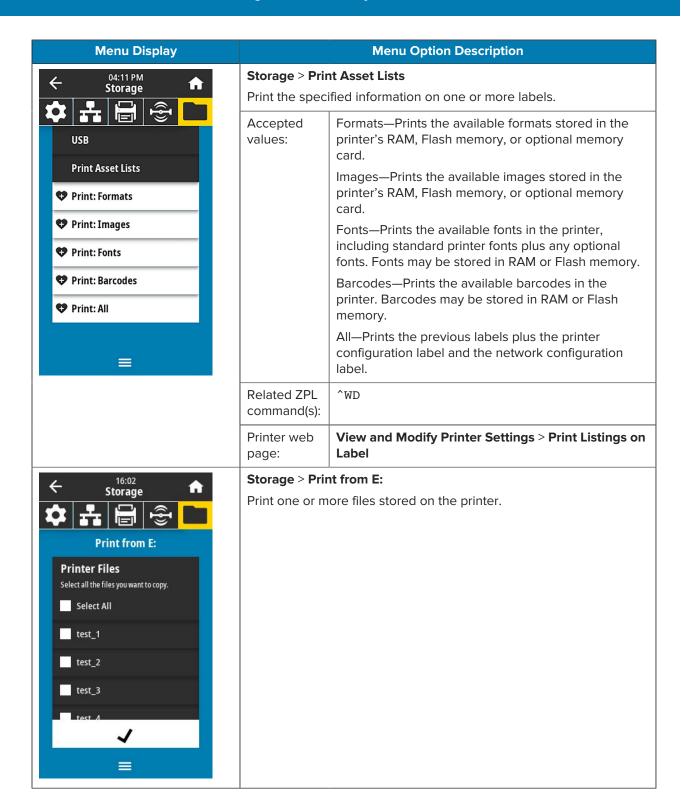




Storage Menu







Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors

Printer calibration adjusts the sensitivity of the media and ribbon sensors. It also helps ensure proper alignment of the image being printed and optimal print quality.

Perform calibration in the following situations:

- You switched to a different size or type of ribbon or media.
- The printer experiences any of the following issues:
 - · Skips labels.
 - The printed image wanders or drifts side to side or up and down.
 - Ribbon is not being detected either when it is installed or when it runs out.
 - Non-continuous labels are being treated as continuous labels.

Performing Auto Calibration

You can set the printer to perform an auto calibration (CALIBRATE) or a short calibration (SHORT CAL) using the POWER UP ACTION or HEAD CLOSE ACTION parameters.

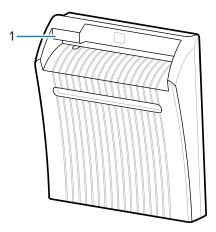
- CALIBRATE—Adjusts sensor levels and thresholds, determines the label length, and feeds the media to the next web.
- SHORT CAL—Sets the media and web thresholds without adjusting sensor gain, determines the label length, and feeds the media to the next web.

Performing Manual Sensor Calibration

You may need to manually calibrate the printer if you see issues with the print output.



IMPORTANT: When performing manual calibration with a linerless cutter, remove any media that extends out of the cutter. Leaving any media sticking out can block the label taken sensor (1), so calibration will fail.



During the calibration sequence, when you are prompted to remove labels from the backing and to move the backing under the sensor, simply remove the linerless media from the media path and close the printhead assembly.

1. Touch Print > Sensors > Manual Calibration.



- 2. Touch Start Calibration.
- **3.** Follow the steps in the calibration procedure as prompted.



IMPORTANT: Follow the calibration procedure exactly as presented.

- Touch Next to advance to the next prompt.
- You may press and hold CANCEL on the control panel at any step in the procedure to cancel the calibration process.
- **4.** When calibration is complete, press **PAUSE** to exit pause mode and enable printing.

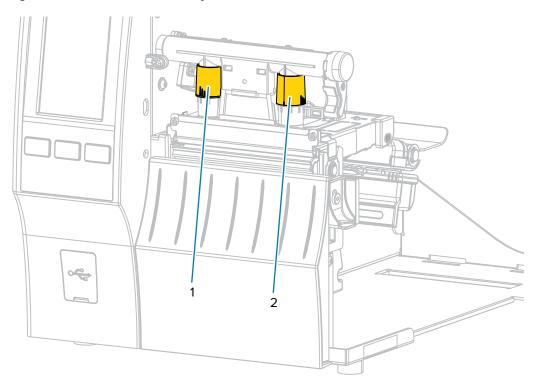
Adjusting the Printhead Pressure

You may need to adjust printhead pressure if:

- · printing is too light on one side
- · you use thick media, or
- · if the media drifts from side to side during printing

Use the inside and outside printhead pressure adjustment dials to set the printhead pressure. Set the pressure to the lowest level necessary to achieve good print quality. The setting marks on these dials range from 1 to 4.

Figure 3 Printhead Pressure Adjustment Dials

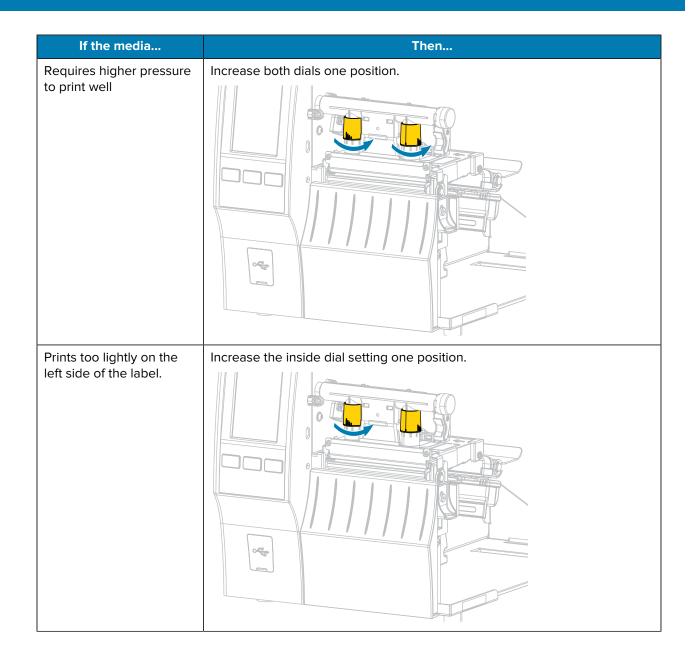


Begin with the pressure settings for your printer model and media width as specified in the following table, and make adjustments to the inside dial (1) and the outside dial (2) as necessary.

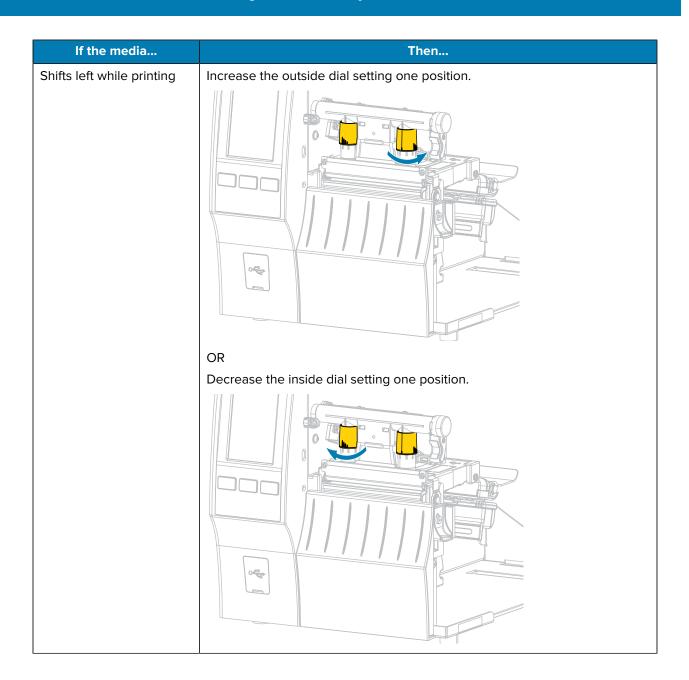
 Table 3
 Pressure Setting Starting Points

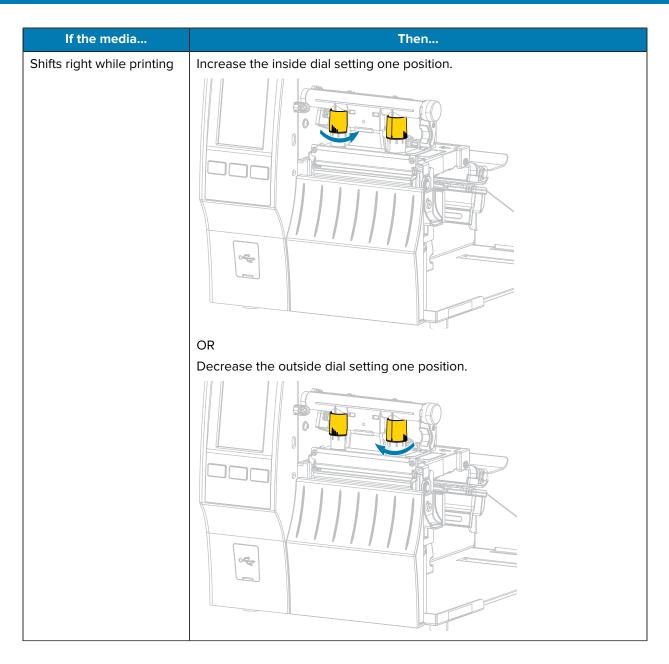
Printer	Media Width	Inside Dial Setting	Outside Dial Setting
ZT411	1 in. (25 mm)	4	1
	2 in. (51 mm)	3	1
	3 in. (76 mm)	2.5	1.5
	≥ 3.5 in. (89 mm)	2	2
ZT421	2 in. (51 mm)	4	1
	3 in. (76 mm)	3.5	1
	4 in. (102 mm)	3	2
	≥ 5 in. (127 mm)	2.5	2.5

If necessary, adjust the printhead pressure adjustment dials as follows:



If the media	Then
Prints too lightly on the right side of the label.	Increase the outside dial setting one position.





Adjusting the Sensor Position

The transmissive media sensor assembly consists of two parts:

- Light source (lower part of the media sensor)
- Light sensor (upper part of the media sensor)

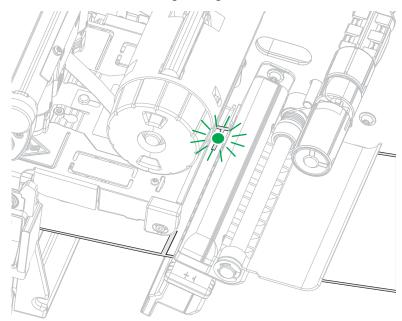
The media passes between these two parts.

Adjust the position of the sensor only if the printer cannot detect the top of the labels. If that occurs, the printer display shows a "media out error" despite media being loaded.

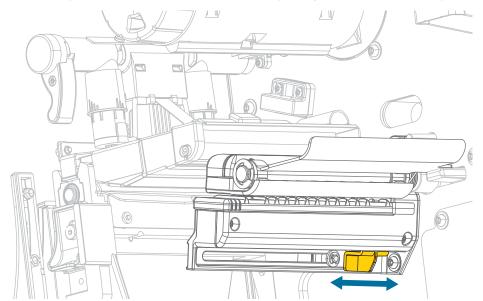
For non-continuous media with a notch or hole, the sensor must be positioned directly at the notch or hole.

1. Remove the ribbon so you can clearly see the media path.

2. Load the media so that the green light from the media sensor is shining through a gap, notch, or hole.



3. If necessary, slide the media sensor horizontally using the media sensor adjustment.



Routine Maintenance

This section provides routine cleaning and maintenance procedures.

Cleaning Schedule and Procedures

Routine preventive maintenance is a crucial part of normal printer operation. By taking good care of your printer, you can minimize potential problems and achieve/maintain the desired print quality standards.

Over time, the movement of media or ribbon across the printhead wears through the protective ceramic coating, exposing and eventually damaging the print elements (dots). To avoid abrasion:

- Clean the printhead frequently.
- Minimize printhead pressure and burn temperature (darkness) settings by optimizing the balance between the two.
- When using Thermal Transfer mode, ensure that the ribbon is either as wide or wider than the media. This is to avoid exposing printhead elements to the more abrasive label material.



IMPORTANT: Zebra is not responsible for damage caused by the use of cleaning fluids on this printer.

Specific cleaning procedures are included in this section. Follow the recommended cleaning schedule listed in the table below.



NOTE: These recommended cleaning intervals are intended as guidelines only. You may have to clean more often depending on your specific application and the media you use for printing.

Table 4 Recommended Cleaning Schedule

Area	Method	Interval
Printhead	Solvent*	Direct Thermal Mode: After every roll of media
Platen roller (standard, white)	Solvent*	(or 500 feet of fanfold media). Thermal Transfer Mode: After every roll of
Platen roller (linerless, dark brown)	Dabbing with sticky side of linerless label**	ribbon.
Media sensors	Air blow	
Ribbon sensor	Air blow	

 Table 4
 Recommended Cleaning Schedule (Continued)

	Area	Method	Interval
Media path		Solvent*	
Ribbon path		Solvent*	
Pinch roller (part of Peel-Off option)	Solvent*	
Cutter module	If cutting continuous, pressure-sensitive media	Solvent*	After every roll of media (or more often, depending upon your application and media).
	If cutting tag stock or label liner material	Solvent* and air blow	After every two or three rolls of media.
Tear-off/pee	l-off bar	Solvent*	Once a month.
Take-label s	ensor	Air blow	Once every six months.



NOTE:

* Zebra recommends using the Preventive Maintenance Kit (p/n 47362 or p/n 105950-035 - multipack). In place of the Preventive Maintenance Kit, you may use a lint-free cloth dipped in 99.7% isopropyl alcohol.

For 600 dpi printers, use Save-a-Printhead cleaning film. This specially-coated material removes contamination buildup without damaging the printhead. Call your authorized reseller or distributor for more information.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: ** Do not use solvents, including isopropyl alcohol or the Preventive Maintenance Kit swab, on a linerless platen roller as this could damage the finish.

Clean the Exterior, the Media Compartment, and the Sensors

Over time, dust, grime, and other debris may build up on the outside and inside of your printer, particularly in a harsh operating environment.

Clean the Printer Exterior

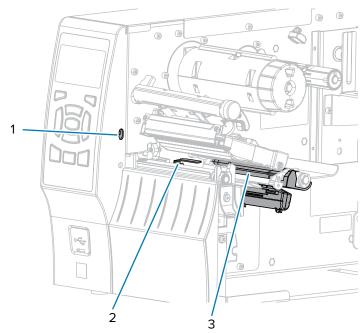
You may clean the exterior surfaces of the printer with a lint-free cloth and a small amount of a mild detergent, if necessary. Do not use harsh or abrasive cleaning agents or solvents.



IMPORTANT: Zebra is not responsible for damage caused by the use of cleaning fluids on this printer.

Cleaning the Media Compartment and Sensors

- 1. Brush, air blow, or vacuum any accumulated paper lint and dust away from the media and ribbon paths.
- 2. Brush, air blow, or vacuum any accumulated paper lint and dust away from the sensors. (ZT410 shown)



1	Take-label sensor
2	Ribbon sensor
3	Media sensor

Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller

Inconsistent print quality, such as voids in the barcode or graphics, may indicate a dirty printhead. For the recommended cleaning schedule, see Cleaning Schedule and Procedures on page 140.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: When cleaning a linerless platen roller, do not wash or scrub, which can damage the platen roller. Remove particles using the adhesive side of linerless media.



IMPORTANT:

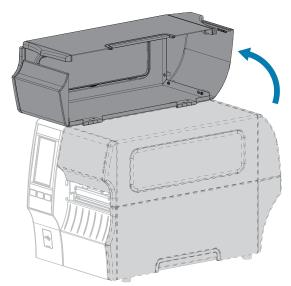
While you are not required to turn off printer power when working near an open printhead, Zebra recommends it as a precaution.

If you turn off power, you will lose all temporary settings, such as label formats, and you must reload them before you resume printing.



CAUTION—ESD: Before touching the printhead assembly, discharge any built-up static electricity by touching the metal printer frame or by using an anti-static wrist-strap and mat.

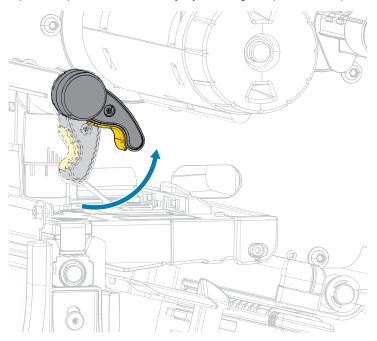
1. Raise the media door.



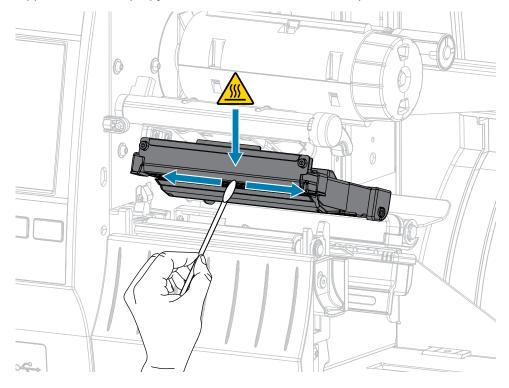


CAUTION: HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

2. Open the printhead assembly by rotating the printhead-open lever upward.



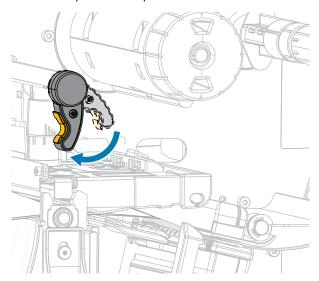
- **3.** Remove the ribbon (if used) and the media.
- **4.** Using the swab from a Zebra Preventive Maintenance Kit, wipe along the brown strip on the printhead assembly from end to end. In place of the Preventive Maintenance Kit, you may use a clean swab dipped in 99.7% isopropyl alcohol. Allow the solvent to evaporate.



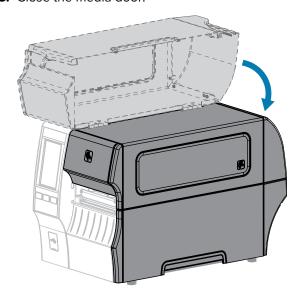
5. **Option Description** If you have a... Then... Linerless platen CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: Do not use the swab on a roller (dark brown) linerless platen roller because it can cause damage. Lightly touch the linerless platen roller with the sticky side of a linerless label to lift particles off of the exposed area of the platen roller and the media path. Rotate the platen roller to access all sides of it. While manually rotating the standard platen roller, clean it thoroughly with the Standard platen swab. Allow the solvent to evaporate. roller (white)

6. Reload the ribbon (if used) and the media. For instructions, see Loading the Ribbon on page 73 or Loading the Media on page 35.

7. Rotate the printhead-open lever downward until it locks the printhead in place.



8. Close the media door.



The printer is ready to operate.

Press PAUSE to exit pause mode and enable printing.
 The printer may perform a label calibration or feed a label, depending on your settings.



NOTE:

If performing this procedure does not improve print quality, try cleaning the printhead with Save-A-Printhead cleaning film. This specially coated material removes contamination buildup without damaging the printhead.

Call your authorized Zebra reseller for more information.

Cleaning and Lubricating the Standard Cutter Module

If the cutter is not cutting the labels cleanly or if it jams with labels, clean the cutter blades. After cleaning the blades, apply lubrication to them to help extend the life of your cutter module.

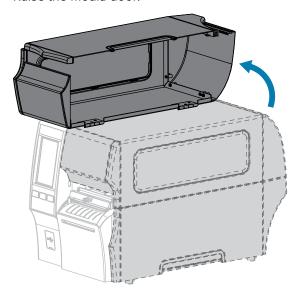


IMPORTANT: This procedure does not apply to the linerless cutter. For the linerless cutter, go to Cleaning and Lubricating the Linerless Cutter.



CAUTION—ELECTRIC SHOCK: Turn off the printer **(O)** and disconnect it from the power source before performing the following procedure.

- **1.** Turn off (**O**) the printer and disconnect the AC power cord.
- 2. Raise the media door.



3. Remove media that is loaded through the cutter module.

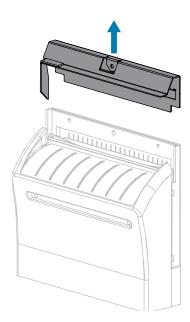


CAUTION: The cutter blade is sharp. Do not touch or rub the blade with your fingers.

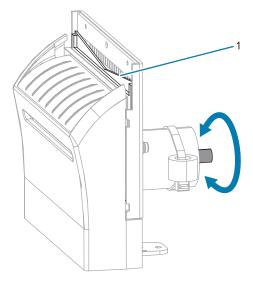
4. Loosen and remove the thumbscrew and lock washer on the cutter shield.



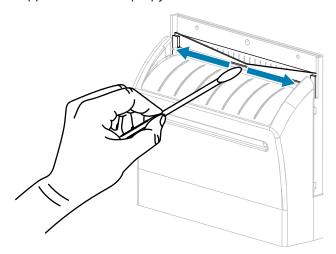
5. Remove the cutter shield.



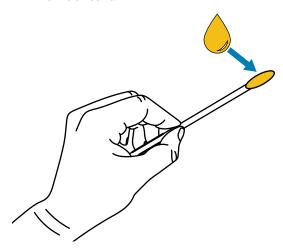
6. If necessary, rotate the cutter motor thumbscrew to fully expose the V-shaped cutter blade (1).



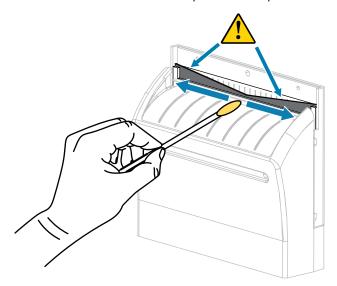
7. Using the swab from the Preventive Maintenance Kit (part number 47362), wipe along the upper cutting surface and the cutter blade. In place of the Preventive Maintenance Kit, you may use a clean swab dipped in 99.7% isopropyl alcohol. Allow the solvent to evaporate.



8. When the solvent has evaporated, soak a clean swab in a general-purpose, higher-viscosity silicone or PTFE oil lubricant.



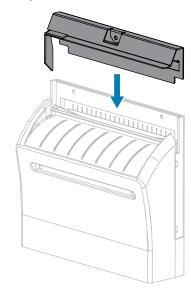
9. Apply an even layer along all exposed surfaces of both cutter blades. Remove any excess oil so that none of it comes in contact with the printhead or platen roller.





CAUTION: The cutter blade is sharp. For operator safety, replace the cutter shield.

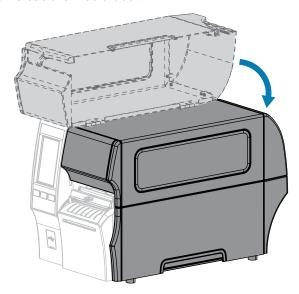
10. Replace the cutter shield.



11. Secure it with the thumbscrew and lock washer that you removed earlier.



- 12. Reload the media.
- **13.** Close the media door.



14. Plug the printer into its power source, and then turn on (I) the printer.

The cutter blade returns to its operating position.

15. If the cutter continues to perform unsatisfactorily, contact an authorized service technician for assistance.

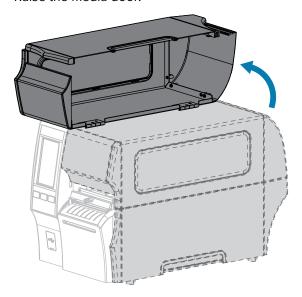
Cleaning and Lubricating the Linerless Cutter

If the linerless cutter is not cutting the labels cleanly or if it jams with labels, clean the cutter blade. After cleaning the blade, apply lubrication to the blade to help extend the life of your cutter module.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: Do not use oil or solvents (including isopropyl alcohol or the Preventive Maintenance Kit swab) on a linerless platen roller, as this could damage the finish.

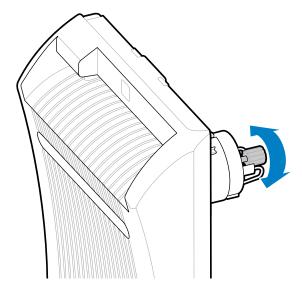
- **1.** Turn off **(O)** the printer and disconnect the AC power cord.
- 2. Raise the media door.



- **3.** Remove media that is loaded through the cutter module.
- **4.** During this procedure, rotate the cutter motor thumbscrew as needed to expose the surfaces of the cutter blade.



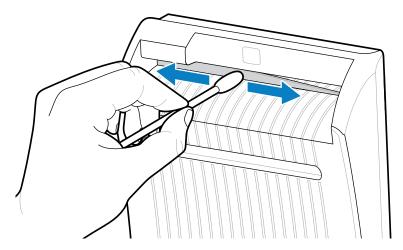
CAUTION: The cutter blade is sharp. Do not touch or rub the blade with your fingers.



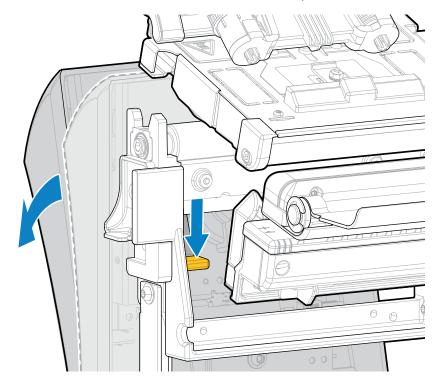
5. Using the swab from a Preventive Maintenance Kit (part number 47362), wipe along the upper cutting surface and the cutter blade. In place of the Preventive Maintenance Kit, you may use a clean swab dipped in 99.7% isopropyl alcohol. Allow the solvent to evaporate. If particles or adhesive are visible and cannot be removed with the swab, gently try to remove them with a plastic spudger (no metal).



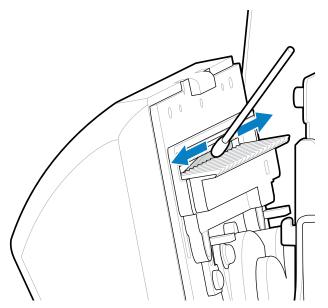
CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: Do not touch the swab to the linerless platen roller because doing so could damage the platen roller finish.



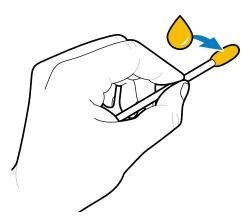
6. Press down on the cutter release lever, and then pivot the cutter forward.



7. Using the swab, wipe along the upper cutting surface and the cutter blade from the back of the cutter. Allow the solvent to evaporate. If particles are visible and cannot be removed with the swab, gently try to remove them with a plastic spudger (no metal).



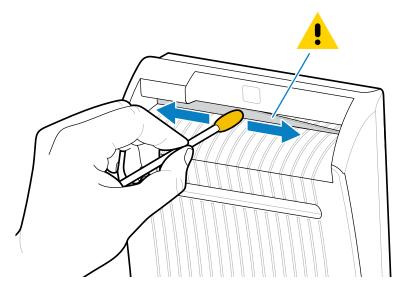
8. When the solvent has evaporated, soak a clean swab in a general-purpose, higher-viscosity silicone or PTFE oil lubricant.



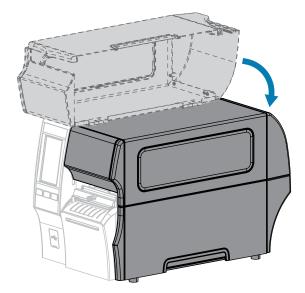


CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: Do not touch the swab to the linerless platen roller because doing so could damage the platen roller finish.

9. Apply an even layer along all exposed surfaces of the cutter blade, front and back. Remove any excess oil so that none of it comes in contact with the printhead or platen roller.



- 10. Reload the media.
- 11. Close the media door.



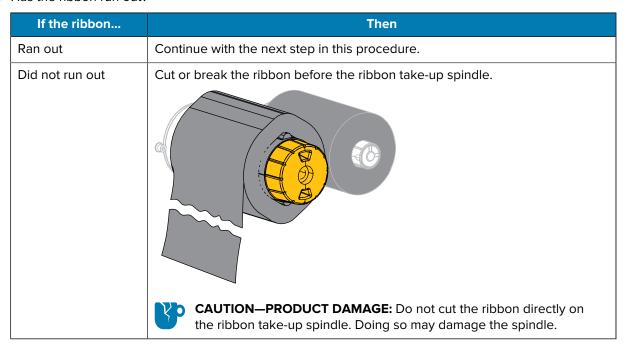
- **12.** Plug the printer into its power source, and then turn on (I) the printer.
 - The cutter blade returns to its operating position.
- **13.** If the cutter continues to perform unsatisfactorily, contact an authorized service technician for assistance.

Removing Used Ribbon

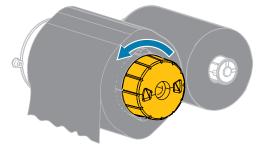
At minimum, remove used ribbon from the ribbon take-up spindle each time you change the roll of ribbon.

With ribbon that is half or less the width of the printhead, remove used ribbon each time you load a new roll of media. This ensures that uneven pressure on the ribbon take-up spindle does not interfere with the ribbon release bars on the spindle.

1. Has the ribbon run out?



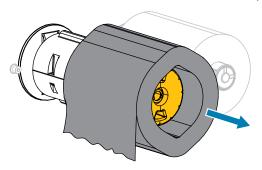
2. While holding the ribbon take-up spindle, turn the ribbon release knob to the left until it stops.



The ribbon release bars pivot down, easing the spindle's grip on the used ribbon.

3. After the ribbon release bars have pivoted down, if possible, turn the ribbon take-up spindle one full turn to the right to help loosen the ribbon on the spindle.

4. Slide the used ribbon off the ribbon take-up spindle and discard.



Replacing Printer Components

Some printer components, such as the printhead and platen roller, may wear out over time and can be replaced easily. Regular cleaning may extend the life of some of these components.

See Cleaning Schedule and Procedures on page 140 for the recommended cleaning intervals.

Ordering Replacement Parts

Zebra printers are designed to work only with genuine Zebra printheads, thus maximizing safety and print quality. Contact your authorized Zebra reseller for part ordering information.

Recycling Printer Components



The majority of this printer's components are recyclable. The printer's main logic board may include a battery that you should dispose of properly.

Do not dispose of any printer components in unsorted municipal waste. Please dispose of the battery according to your local regulations, and recycle the other printer components according to your local standards. For more information, see zebra.com/environment.

Storing the Printer

If you are not placing the printer into immediate operation, repackage it using the original packing materials. You may store the printer under the following conditions:

- Temperature: -40°F to 140°F (-40°C to 60°C)
- Relative humidity: 5% to 85% non-condensing

Lubrication

The only lubrication needed for this printer is for the cutter modules. Follow the instructions in Cleaning and Lubricating the Standard Cutter Module on page 147 or Cleaning and Lubricating the Linerless Cutter on page 152.



NOTE: Do not lubricate any other parts of the printer.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: Some commercially available lubricants will damage the finish and the mechanical parts if used on this printer. This includes the linerless platen roller.

This section provides diagnostic tests and other information that may help you to optimize printing or to troubleshoot issues with your printer.

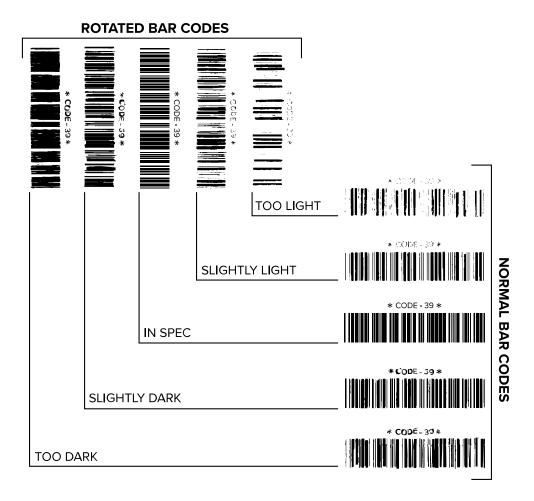
Go to zebra.com/zt400 for access to videos and additional online information designed to assist you.

Evaluating Barcode Quality

The figure below shows how printer settings such as darkness and print speed can affect the quality of the printed barcodes.

Set the print darkness to the lowest setting that delivers good print quality. The Print Quality Assistant in Running the Print Wizard and Printing a Test Label on page 77 can help you determine the most optimal settings.

Figure 4 Barcode Darkness Comparison



Appearance	Description	
Too dark labels	Fairly obvious. These may be readable but are not "in-spec."	
	The normal barcode bars increase in size.	
	The openings in small alphanumeric characters may fill in with ink.	
	Rotated barcode bars and spaces run together.	
Slightly dark	Not as obvious as the too-dark labels.	
labels	The normal barcode will be "in-spec."	
	Small alphanumeric characters will be bold, and may appear slightly filled in.	

Appearance	Description	
	The rotated barcode spaces are small when compared to the "in-spec" code, possibly making the code unreadable.	
"In-spec" labels	Whether or not a label is "in-spec" can only be confirmed by a verifier, but they typically exhibit some visible characteristics.	
	The normal barcode will have complete, even bars along with clear, distinct spaces.	
	The rotated barcode will have complete, even bars along with clear, distinct spaces. Although it may not look as good as a slightly dark barcode, the barcode will be "in-spec."	
	In both normal and rotated styles, small alphanumeric characters will look complete.	
Slightly light	In some cases, these are preferred to slightly dark ones for "in-spec" barcodes.	
labels	Both normal and rotated barcodes will be "in-spec," but small alphanumeric characters may not be complete.	
Too light labels	These are obvious.	
	Both normal and rotated barcodes have incomplete bars and spaces.	
	Small alphanumeric characters are unreadable.	

Configuration Labels

Two of the most commonly used printer diagnostic items are the printer and network configuration labels. Analyzing the information on these labels can help you to troubleshoot potential issues.

To print a printer configuration label, touch Menu > Settings > Print System Settings.

Figure 5 Sample Printer Configuration Label

PRINTER CONFIGURATION Zebra Technologies ZTC ZT620R–203dpi ZPL 76J162700886 To print a network configuration label, touch **Menu** > **Networks** > **Print: Network Info.**

Figure 6 Sample Network Configuration Label

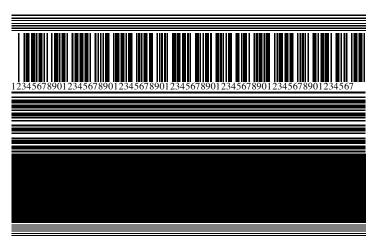
Network Configuration		
Zebra Technologies ZTC ZTXXX-XXXdpi ZPL XXXXXXXXXXX		
Wired PrintServer		
Hired* ALL 192.168.000.017 192.168.000.255 255.255.255.000 192.168.000.254 000.000.000.000 VES 300 000 9100. 9200.	IP PROTOCOL IP ADDRESS SUBBLET GATELIAY HINS SERVER IP TIHEOUT CHECKING TIHEOUT VALUE ARP INTERVAL BASE RAIL PORT JSON CONFIG PORT	
INSERTED 024/H 9134H 9134H 9134H 9134H 9134H 125 126 127 127 128 129 129 129 129 129 129 129 129 129 129	CARD PRES ID CARD PRODUCT ID HAC ADDRESS DRIVER INSTALLED OPERATING MODE ESSID CURRENT TX RATE HEP TYPE HLAN SECURITY HEP HOEX POOR SIGNAL PREMBLE ASSOCIATED PULSE CAMBLED PULSE RATE INTL. MODE REGION CODE COUNTRY CODE	
Bluetoeth 4.3.1p1 02/13/2015 on 3.0/4.0 on 61:3F:A4:82:05:90 76J182700886 no 11 nc supported	FRIENDLY NAME CONNECTED HIN SECURITY MODE CONN SECURITY MODE 10S	
FIRMWARE IN THIS PR	INTER IS COPYRIGHTED	

PAUSE Self-Test

This self test can be used to provide the test labels required when making adjustments to the printer's mechanical assemblies or to determine if any printhead elements are not working.

The following shows a sample printout.

Figure 7 PAUSE Test Label



- **1.** Turn off (**O**) the printer.
- 2. Press and hold **PAUSE** while turning on (I) the printer. Hold **PAUSE** until the first control panel light turns off.

The initial self test prints 15 labels at the printer's slowest speed, and then automatically pauses the printer. Each time **PAUSE** is pressed, an additional 15 labels print.

While the printer is paused:

- Pressing CANCEL alters the self test. Each time PAUSE is pressed, 15 labels print at 152 mm (6 in.) per second.
- Pressing **CANCEL** again alters the self test a second time. Each time **PAUSE** is pressed, 50 labels print at the printer's slowest speed.
- Pressing **CANCEL** again alters the self test a third time. Each time **PAUSE** is pressed, 50 labels print at 152 mm (6 in.) per second.
- Pressing **CANCEL** again alters the self test a fourth time. Each time **PAUSE** is pressed, 15 labels print at the printer's maximum speed.
- 3. To exit this self test at any time, press and hold CANCEL.

Sensor Profile

Tap **Menu** > **Print** > **Sensors** > **Print**: **Sensor Profile** to print a sensor profile image. The image will extend across several actual labels or tags.

Use the sensor profile image to troubleshoot the following situations:

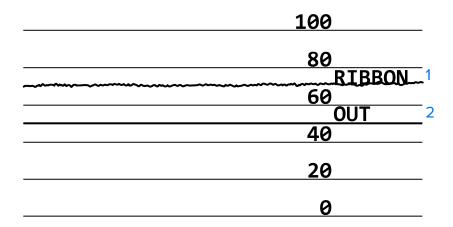
- The printer experiences difficulty in determining gaps (web) between labels.
- The printer incorrectly identifies preprinted areas on a label as gaps (web).
- The printer cannot detect ribbon.

Compare your results to the examples shown in this section. If the sensitivity of the sensors must be adjusted, calibrate the printer. (See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.)

Ribbon Sensor Profile

The line labeled RIBBON (1) on the sensor profile indicates the ribbon sensor readings. The ribbon sensor threshold setting is indicated by OUT (2). If the ribbon readings are below the threshold value, the printer does not acknowledge that ribbon is loaded.

Figure 8 Sensor Profile (Ribbon Section)



Media Sensor Profile

The line labeled MEDIA (1) on the sensor profile indicates the media sensor readings. The media sensor threshold settings are indicated by WEB (2). The media out threshold is indicated by OUT (3). The upward or downward spikes (4) indicate divisions between labels (the web, notch, or black mark), and the lines between the spikes (5) indicate where labels are located.

If you compare the sensor profile printout to a length of your media, the spikes should be the same distance apart as the gaps on the media. If the distances are not the same, the printer may be having difficulty determining where the gaps are located.

Figure 9 Media Sensor Profile (Gap/Notch Media)

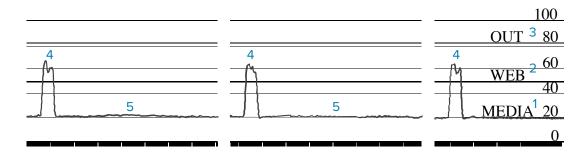
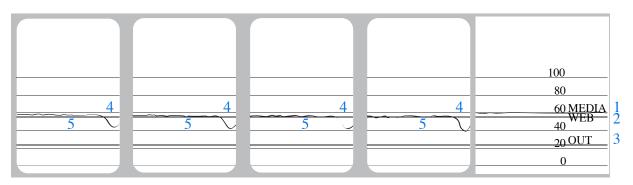


Figure 10 Media Sensor Profile (Black Mark Media)



Using Communication Diagnostics Mode

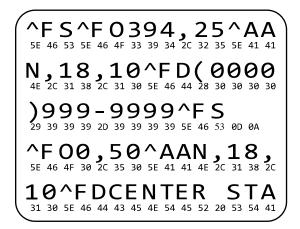
The communication diagnostics test is a troubleshooting tool for checking the interconnection between the printer and the host computer. When the printer is in diagnostics mode, it prints all data received from the host computer as straight ASCII characters with the hex values below the ASCII text. The printer prints all characters received, including control codes such as CR (carriage return). Figure 11 Sample Communications Diagnostics Mode Label on page 165 shows a typical test label from this test.



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NOTE: The test label prints upside-down.

Figure 11 Sample Communications Diagnostics Mode Label



- Set the label width equal to or less than the actual media width being used for the test. Tap Menu >
 Print > Print Quality > Label Width to access the label width setting.
- 2. Tap Menu > System > Program Language, and set the Diagnostic Mode option to ENABLED.

The printer enters diagnostics mode and prints any data received from the host computer on a test label.

3. Check the test label for error codes. For any errors, check that your communication parameters are correct.

Errors show on the test label as follows:

- FE indicates a framing error.
- OE indicates an overrun error.
- PE indicates a parity error.
- · NE indicates noise.
- **4.** To exit this self test and return to normal operation, power cycle the printer or set the Diagnostic Mode option to **DISABLED**.

Loading Defaults or Last Saved Values

Restoring the printer to default values or to the last saved values can help if things are not working as expected.

Touch **Menu** > **System** > **Settings** > **Restore Defaults** to see the available options.



RESTORE PRINTER	Restores all printer settings other than the network settings back to the factory defaults. Use care when loading defaults because you will need to reload all settings that you changed manually.
RESTORE NETWORK	Reinitializes the printer's wired or wireless print server. With a wireless print server, the printer also reassociates with your wireless network.
RESTORE LAST SAVED	Loads settings from the last permanent save.

See System > Settings > Restore Defaults for additional ways to restore these values.

Alert and Error States

If the background color of the Home screen changes, you may need to take an action to restore the printer to a Ready status.

- Red and yellow backgrounds typically halt printing until the issue is resolved.
- Informational messages with a green background usually disappear without user intervention, and printing continues as normal.
- Touch **Reprint** to print the last label printed. If the button is not visible, no label format is available to reprint



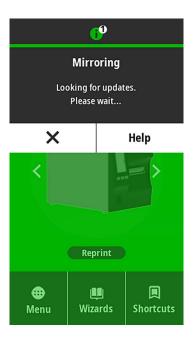




Touch the icons in the bar at the top of the Home screen to view the error, alert, or informational message. See Alerts and Error Messages on page 168 for recommended actions.







Alerts and Error Messages

Display	Possible Causes	Recommended Solutions
Head Open	The printhead is not fully closed.	Close the printhead completely.
Printhead is open. Close the printhead.	The printhead open sensor is not working properly.	Call a service technician to replace the sensor.
Media Out	The media is not loaded or is loaded incorrectly.	Load media correctly. See Loading the Media on page 35.
Media is out. Load additional media.	Misaligned media sensor.	Check the position of the media sensor.
	The printer is set for non-continuous media, but continuous media is loaded.	Install the proper media type, or reset printer for the current media type.
	louded.	2. Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.

Display	Possible Causes	Recommended Solutions
Paper Jam Media jammed. Check the media.	There is an issue with the media in the media path.	 Check for media that is loaded incorrectly or stuck to components in the media path. Check if media is wrapped around the platen roller. Carefully remove any labels. If necessary, clean the platen roller to remove adhesive (see Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller on page
Paper Error – Media Error Check or load the media.	The linerless cutter experienced a media jam, or the linerless media wrapped around the platen roller.	143). Refer to the PAPER ERROR recommendations in Linerless Printing or Cutter Issues.
Ribbon Out Ribbon is out. Replace the ribbon.	 In thermal transfer mode: ribbon is not loaded ribbon is loaded incorrectly the ribbon sensor is not detecting ribbon media is blocking the ribbon sensor 	 Load the ribbon correctly. See Loading the Ribbon on page 73. Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.
	In thermal transfer mode, the printer did not detect the ribbon even though it is loaded correctly.	Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131 or load printer defaults by touching Menu > System > Settings > Restore Defaults > Restore Printer.
	If you are using direct thermal media, the printer is waiting for ribbon to be loaded because it is incorrectly set for thermal transfer mode.	Set the printer for Direct Thermal mode. See Print > Print Quality > Print Type.

Display	Possible Causes	Recommended Solutions
Ribbon In Ribbon was detected in Direct Thermal mode. Remove the ribbon.	Ribbon is loaded, but the printer is set for direct thermal mode.	Ribbon is not required with direct thermal media. If you are using direct thermal media, remove the ribbon. This error message will not affect printing.
		If the message persists with no ribbon in the printer, Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.
		If you are using thermal transfer media, which requires ribbon, set the printer for Thermal Transfer mode. See Determining the Media Handling Method on page 33.
Head Identification Failed Printhead is not a Zebra Certified Product	The printhead was replaced with one that is not a genuine Zebra printhead.	Install a genuine Zebra printhead.
Replace the Printhead	There is an issue with the printhead.	Turn the printer off and then back on to see if the error repeats. If it does, replace the printhead.
Head Element Out A printhead element failed. The printhead may need to be replaced.	A printhead element is no longer working.	If the location of the failed element affects printing, replace the printhead.
Replace Printhead Replace the printhead.	The printhead is nearing the end of its life and should be replaced.	Replace the printhead.
Head Maintenance Needed Clean the printhead.	The printhead needs to be cleaned.	Follow the cleaning instructions in Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller on page 143.

Display	Possible Causes	Recommended Solutions	
Head Over Temp Printhead is too hot. All printing is halted.	CAUTION: HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot enough to cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.		
All printing is nated.	The printhead is over temperature.	Allow the printer to cool. Printing automatically resumes when the printhead elements cool to an acceptable operating temperature.	
		If this error persists, consider changing where the printer is located or using a slower print speed.	
The printer shows one of these messages, or it cycles back and forth between them: Head Under Temp	connected printher cause these error r	URFACE: An improperly ad data or power cable can messages. The printhead may cause severe burns. Allow the	
Printhead is too cold. All printing is halted.	The printhead data cable is not properly connected.	Hook up the printhead properly.	
Head Thermistor Fault Faulty thermistor detected. Replace the printhead.	The printhead has a faulty thermistor.	Replace the printhead.	
Head Under Temp Printhead is too cold. All printing is halted.	connected printher	JRFACE: An improperly ad data or power cable can essage. The printhead may cause severe burns. Allow the	
	The printhead temperature is approaching its lower operating limit.	Continue printing while the printhead reaches the correct operating temperature. If the error remains, the environment may be too cold for proper printing. Relocate the printer to a warmer area.	
	The printhead data cable is not properly connected.	Hook up the printhead properly.	
	The printhead has a faulty thermistor.	Replace the printhead.	

Display	Possible Causes	Recommended Solutions
Cutter Error A cutter error occurred. Restart the printer.	or rub the blade wi	the linerless cutter option erless Printing Issues for
	The cutter blade is in the media path.	Turn off the printer power and unplug the printer. Inspect the cutter module for debris and clean as needed following the cleaning instructions in Cleaning and Lubricating the Standard Cutter Module on page 147.
Out of Memory Storing XXX XXX not stored. Out of memory.	There is not enough memory to perform the function specified.	Free up some of the printer's memory by adjusting the label format or printer parameters. One way to free up memory is to adjust the print width to the actual width of the label instead of leaving the print width set to the default.
		Ensure that the data is not directed to a device that is not installed or is unavailable.
		If the problem persists, call a service technician.

Indicator Lights

The indicator lights located above the printer's display also communicate the printer's status.

 Table 5
 Status of Printer As Shown by Indicator Lights

Indicator Lights	What they indicate
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK STATUS light steady green (other lights steady yellow for 2 seconds during printer power-up).	The printer is ready.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK PAUSE light steady yellow.	The printer is paused.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK STATUS light steady red. SUPPLIES light steady red.	The media supply is out. The printer needs attention and cannot continue without user intervention.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK STATUS light steady red. SUPPLIES light flashing red.	The ribbon supply is out. The printer needs attention and cannot continue without user intervention.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK STATUS light steady yellow. SUPPLIES light flashing yellow.	The printer is in Direct Thermal mode, which does not require ribbon; however, ribbon is installed in the printer.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK STATUS light steady red. PAUSE light steady yellow.	The printhead is open. The printer needs attention and cannot continue without user intervention.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK STATUS light steady yellow.	The printhead is over temperature. CAUTION—HOT SURFACE: The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.

Table 5 Status of Printer As Shown by Indicator Lights (Continued)

Indicator Lights	What they indicate	
	Indicates one of the following:	
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK	The printhead is under temperature.	
STATUS light flashing yellow.	CAUTION: This display message can be incorrect. The printhead may be hot and could cause severe burns. Allow the printhead to cool.	
	The main logic board (MLB) or power supply is over temperature.	
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK STATUS light steady red. PAUSE light steady red. DATA light steady red.	The printhead was replaced with one that is not a genuine Zebra printhead. Install a genuine Zebra printhead to continue.	
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK STATUS light flashing red.	The printer is unable to read the dpi setting of the printhead.	
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK	This indicates an error with the cutter. The cutter blade is in the media path.	
STATUS light steady red.	CAUTION: The cutter blade is sharp. Do not touch or rub the blade with your fingers.	
Printers with a ZebraNet wired Ethernet option		
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK NETWORK light off.	No Ethernet link is available.	
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK NETWORK light steady green.	A 100 Base-T link was found.	
	A 10 Base-T link was found.	
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK		
NETWORK light steady yellow.		
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK NETWORK light steady red.	An Ethernet error condition exists. The printer is not connected to your network.	
Printers with a ZebraNet wireless option		

Table 5 Status of Printer As Shown by Indicator Lights (Continued)

Indicator Lights	What they indicate
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK	A radio was found during power-up. The printer is attempting to associate with the network.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK	
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK NETWORK light off. The light flashes red while the printer associates with the network. The light then flashes yellow while the printer	
is authenticating with the network. STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK NETWORK light steady green.	The radio is associated with your network and authenticated, and the WLAN signal is strong.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK NETWORK light flashing green.	The radio is associated with your network and authenticated, but the WLAN signal is weak.
STATUS PAUSE DATA SUPPLIES NETWORK NETWORK light steady red.	A WLAN error condition exists. The printer is not connected to your network.

Troubleshooting

Use this information to troubleshoot issues with the printer.

Printing or Print Quality Issues

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
The barcode printed on a label does not scan.	The barcode is not within specifications because the printer is set at an incorrect darkness level or the printhead pressure is off.	1. Perform the steps in Running the Print Wizard and Printing a Test Label on page 77.
		2. If necessary, manually adjust the darkness or print speed settings.
		Set the print darkness to the lowest setting that provides good print quality. If you set the darkness too high, the label image may print unclearly, barcodes may not scan correctly, the ribbon may burn through, or the printhead may wear prematurely.
		Slower print speeds typically yield better print quality.
		Access the darkness and print speed settings from the Home screen by touching Menu > Print > Print Quality.
		3. If the issue is not resolved, check the printhead pressure and toggle position. See Adjusting the Printhead Pressure on page 133
	There is not enough blank space around the barcode.	Leave at least 3.2 mm (1/8 in.) between the barcode and other printed areas on the label and between the barcode and the edge of the label.
My label prints too small (or too large)	The wrong printer driver is being used, or other settings are not correct for your printing application.	Check the printer driver or software communications settings (if applicable) for your connection. You may wish to reinstall the printer driver following the instructions in Connecting the Printer to a Device on page 13.
Smudge marks on labels	The media or ribbon is not designed for high-speed operation.	Replace supplies with those recommended for high-speed operation. For more information, see <u>zebra.com/supplies</u> .
Poor results with thick labels	Incorrect printhead pressure.	Set the printhead pressure to the minimum needed for good print quality. SeeAdjusting the Printhead Pressure on page 133

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
Printing is too light or too dark over the entire label	The media or ribbon is not designed for high-speed operation.	Replace supplies with those recommended for high-speed operation. For more information, see <u>zebra.com/supplies</u> .
	The printer is set at an incorrect darkness level.	For optimal print quality, set the darkness to the lowest possible setting for your application.
		1. Perform the steps in Running the Print Wizard and Printing a Test Label on page 77.
		2. If necessary, manually adjust the darkness or print speed settings.
		Set the print darkness to the lowest setting that provides good print quality. If you set the darkness too high, the label image may print unclearly, barcodes may not scan correctly, the ribbon may burn through, or the printhead may wear prematurely.
		Slower print speeds typically yield better print quality.
		Access the darkness and print speed settings from the Home screen by touching Menu > Print > Print Quality.
	You are using an incorrect combination of media and	Switch to a different type of media or ribbon to try to find a compatible combination.
	ribbon for your application.	If necessary, consult your authorized Zebra reseller or distributor for information and advice.
	Incorrect printhead pressure.	If the issue is not resolved, check the printhead pressure and toggle position. See Adjusting the Printhead Pressure on page 133
Printing is too light or too dark on one side of the label	Uneven printhead pressure.	Adjust the printhead pressure as needed for good print quality. See Adjusting the Printhead Pressure on page 133

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
General print quality issues	The printer is set at an incorrect print speed or darkness level. Keep in mind that printer settings may be affected by the driver or software being used.	For optimal print quality, set the darkness to the lowest possible setting for your application.
		1. Perform the steps in Running the Print Wizard and Printing a Test Label on page 77.
		2. If necessary, manually adjust the darkness or print speed settings.
		Set the print darkness to the lowest setting that provides good print quality. If you set the darkness too high, the label image may print unclearly, barcodes may not scan correctly, the ribbon may burn through, or the printhead may wear prematurely.
		 Slower print speeds typically yield better print quality.
		Access the darkness and print speed settings from the Home screen by touching Menu > Print > Print Quality.
	You are using an incorrect combination of labels and ribbon for your application.	Switch to a different type of media or ribbon to try to find a compatible combination.
		If necessary, consult your authorized Zebra reseller or distributor for information and advice.
	The printhead is dirty.	Clean the printhead and platen roller. See Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller on page 143.
	Incorrect or uneven printhead pressure.	If the issue is not resolved, check the printhead pressure and toggle position. See Adjusting the Printhead Pressure on page 133
	The label format is scaling a font that is not scalable.	Check the label format for font issues.
Fine, angular gray lines on blank labels	Wrinkled ribbon.	See wrinkled ribbon causes and solutions in Miscellaneous Issues on page 194.
Long tracks of missing print on several labels	Print element damaged.	Call a service technician for assistance.
	Wrinkled ribbon.	See wrinkled ribbon causes and solutions in Ribbon Issues on page 180.

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
Loss of printing registration on labels Excessive vertical drift in top-of-form registration	The platen roller is dirty.	Clean the printhead and platen roller. See Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller on page 143.
	Media guides are positioned improperly.	Ensure that the media guides are properly positioned. See Loading the Media on page 35.
	The media type is set incorrectly.	Set the printer for the correct media type (gap/notch, continuous, or mark).
	The media is loaded incorrectly.	Load media correctly. See Loading the Media on page 35.
Misregistration/skips labels	The printer is not calibrated.	Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.
	Improper label format.	Check your label format, and correct it as necessary.
Misregistration and misprint of one to three labels	The platen roller is dirty.	Clean the printhead and platen roller. See Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller on page 143.
	Media does not meet specifications.	Use media that meets specifications. See Media Specifications on page 221.
Vertical drift in top-of- form position	The printer is out of calibration.	Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.
	The platen roller is dirty.	Clean the printhead and platen roller. See Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller on page 143.
Horizontal movement in placement of the label image.	The previous labels were torn off incorrectly.	Pull down and to the left when tearing off labels so that the tear-off bar assists in tearing through the label backing. Pulling up or down and to the right can shift the media sideways.
Vertical image or label drift	The printer is using non- continuous labels but is configured in continuous mode.	Set the printer for the correct media type (gap/notch, continuous, or mark) and calibrate the printer, if necessary. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.
	The media sensor is calibrated improperly.	Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.
	The platen roller is dirty.	Clean the printhead and platen roller. See Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller on page 143.
	Improper printhead pressure settings (toggles).	Adjust the printhead pressure to ensure proper functionality. See Adjusting the Printhead Pressure on page 133.

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
	The media or ribbon is loaded incorrectly.	Ensure that the media and ribbon are loaded correctly. See Loading the Ribbon on page 73 and Loading the Media on page 35.
	Incompatible media.	You must use media that meets the printer specifications. Ensure that the interlabel gaps or notches are 2 to 4 mm and consistently placed. See Media Specifications on page 221.

Ribbon Issues

See <u>zebra.com/zt400-info</u> for videos on resolving commonly-encountered issues.



Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution		
Broken or melted ribbon Darkne	Darkness is set too high.	1. Perform the steps in Running the Print Wizard and Printing a Test Label on page 77.		
		2. If necessary, manually adjust the darkness or print speed settings.		
		Set the print darkness to the lowest setting that provides good print quality. If you set the darkness too high, the label image may print unclearly, barcodes may not scan correctly, the ribbon may burn through, or the printhead may wear prematurely.		
				Slower print speeds typically yield better print quality.
		Access the darkness and print speed settings from the Home screen by touching Menu > Print > Print Quality.		
		3. Clean the printhead thoroughly. See Cleaning the Printhead and Platen Roller on page 143.		

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
	The ribbon is coated on the wrong side and cannot be used in this printer.	Replace the ribbon with one coated on the correct side. For more information, see Determining the Type of Ribbon to Use on page 72.
Wrinkled ribbon	Ribbon was loaded incorrectly.	Load the ribbon correctly. See Loading the Ribbon on page 73.
	Incorrect burn temperature.	1. Perform the steps in Running the Print Wizard and Printing a Test Label on page 77.
		2. If necessary, manually adjust the darkness or print speed settings.
		Set the print darkness to the lowest setting that provides good print quality. If you set the darkness too high, the label image may print unclearly, barcodes may not scan correctly, the ribbon may burn through, or the printhead may wear prematurely.
		 Slower print speeds typically yield better print quality.
		Access the darkness and print speed settings from the Home screen by touching Menu > Print > Print Quality.
	Incorrect or uneven printhead pressure.	Set the printhead pressure to the minimum needed for good print quality. See Adjusting the Printhead Pressure on page 133.
	Media not feeding properly; "walking" from side to side.	Adjust the media guide until it just touches the edge of the media. If this does not solve the issue, check the printhead pressure. See Adjusting the Printhead Pressure on page 133. If necessary, call a service technician.
	The printhead or platen roller	Verify, if you can, that they are installed
	may be installed incorrectly.	correctly. If necessary, call a service technician.
The printer does not detect when the ribbon runs out.	The printer may have been calibrated without ribbon or without the ribbon loaded	Make sure that ribbon is loaded correctly so that it can be detected by the ribbon sensor. Under the printhead, the ribbon
In thermal transfer mode, the printer did not detect the	properly.	should track all the way back, near the printer's firewall. See Loading the Ribbon on page 73.
ribbon even though it is loaded correctly.		2. Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.

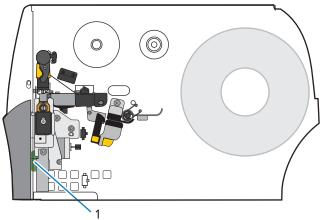
Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
The printer indicates that ribbon is out, even though the ribbon is loaded correctly.	The printer was not calibrated for the label and ribbon being used.	Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.

Linerless Printing Issues

This section provides operating information and troubleshooting related to the linerless cutter option.

Cutter LED

The linerless cutter provides an LED that indicates the cutter status. You can view the glow from the LED (1) from the side of the cutter.



Cutter LED	Issue/Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
Off	The linerless cutter is not powered.	Do the following:
		Verify that the printer power switch is in the On (I) position.
		Check that the 10-pin cutter cable is plugged in on both ends: the cutter PCBA and the printer firewall.
		Check the power connection to the printer's main logic board (MLB).
Solid Green	All conditions are good.	The cutter is ready.
Blinking Amber	Cutter jam	This could be caused by a recent cutter jam. If the cutter jam was addressed and the cutter is ready, close the cutter and feed a label to clear this condition. Verify the LED is now Green.
		Other possible causes:
		Something is physically blocking the cutter blade from moving.
		The cutter is not receiving 24V voltage from the printer. Check the fuse on the printer's MLB.

Cutter LED	Issue/Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
Solid Red	The cutter is open.	This is a normal condition when the cutter is pivoted open. To resolve this condition, do the following:
		Check that the cutter is fully closed and flush with the printer.
		If necessary, check that the cutter is correctly installed in the printer.
	The cutter module is separated from the housing, usually for maintenance purposes.	CAUTION: To avoid personal injury, turn Off (O) the printer before continuing.
	parposes.	When it is safe to do so and all cutter maintenance is resolved, reinstall the cutter housing, and then turn On (I) the printer.
Blinking Red	The cutter upper or lower label-taken sensor was not detected.	
	The cutter-open sensor was not detected.	

Linerless Printing or Cutter Issues

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
Issues with printing labels.	A command in the label format is changing the printer settings.	Check the label format for any commands that may be changing printer settings.
		For linerless cutter operation, the printer must be set to Linerless Cut mode and Continuous media.
Need the printed label length to match the	The linerless cutter option supports a no-print zone (SGD command:	Set the label top (^LT) value to zero if you do not want the label length to increase.
configured label length.	media.linerless_offset), which increases the label length if the label top (ZPL command: ^LT)	Example A (increased printed label length): Setting the label top to 61 for a 203 dpi printer
	value is positive.	Label length = 609
		• Label Top = 61
		• Printed label length (in dots) = 609 + 61 = 669
		Printed label length (in inches) = 3 + 0.3 = 3.3 in.
		Printed label length (in mm) = 76 + 7.6 = 83.6 mm
		Example B (same printed label length): Setting the label top to 0 for a 203 dpi printer
		Label length = 609
		• Label Top = 0
		Printed label length (in dots) = 609 + 0 = 609
		Printed label length (in inches) = 3 + 0 = 3 in.
		• Printed label length (in mm) = 76 + 0 = 76 mm

Issue	Possible Cause		Recommer	ded Solution	
The first label printed is longer than subsequent labels.	The settings for System > Settings > Power Up Action and System > Settings > Head Close Action affect the length of the first label.		setting to No M ame as subsequ		the first label
Frequent paper errors during printing or feeding. Using zero or other small values for the linerless offset command (SGD command: media.linerless_offset) increases the likelihood of paper jams.	values for the linerless offset command (SGD command:		ole, use the def erless_offs		your printer
		Minimum	Default (0.3 in.)	Max (0.375 in.)	
		203 dpi	0	61	76
	300 dpi	0	90	113	
	600 dpi	0	180	225	

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
PAPER ERROR	Media is wrapped around the platen roller.	CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: To avoid damaging the platen roller, do not cut against or scrape the surface of the roller.
		1. Open the printhead.
		2. Use a flat-blade screwdriver to rotate the platen roller backwards to release any trapped media.
		3. If the media is stuck to itself and cannot be released easily, remove the platen roller from the printer, and carefully remove the stuck media.
		Do not use any solvents or detergents to help remove the media.
		Replace the platen roller when through removing stuck media from it.
		4. Cut a straight edge on the undamaged media, and load the media through the cutter.
		5. Close the printhead.
		6. If the problem persists, make sure that the media is loaded correctly and that the platen roller is clear of debris.
		7. If the cutter continues to perform unsatisfactorily, contact an authorized service technician for assistance.

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
	Media has jammed fanfold or accordion-style (crumpled) between the platen roller and the cutter.	CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: To avoid damaging the platen roller, do not cut against or scrape the surface of the roller.
		1. Open the printhead.
		2. Check for and remove any jammed media between the platen roller and cutter. If necessary, use a flat-blade screwdriver to rotate the platen roller backwards to release any trapped media.
		3. Cut a straight edge on the undamaged media, and load the media through the cutter.
		4. Close the printhead.
		5. Make sure that the printer is set to Linerless cut mode. Having the wrong setting can cause this issue.

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
	The media has drifted to the right, so the label-taken sensor cannot detect it.	1. Ensure that the inboard edge of the media is fully under the label-taken sensor (1). If it is not, open the printhead, check that the roll of media is placed correctly on the media hanger, and adjust the media inward along the entire path. 2. Check the media guides to ensure that they are just touching the edge of the media. 3. Close the printhead.
	The media is not loaded through the cutter.	Load media through the cutter.

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
CUTTER ERROR	The cutter assembly is open.	1. Apply pressure to the gold square on the front of the cutter to snap the top of the cutter into place.
		2. Open and close the printhead to clear the error.
		3. Press PAUSE to enable printing.

pivot the cutter of the cutter and blocked the cutter of t	ne cutter release lever, and then prward.
	nove the cutter from the printer to
access the sensor 4. After the sensor	or and debris. is cleared, reinstall the cutter and
lock it into place 5. Open and close	

RFID Issues

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
The printer stops at the RFID inlay.	The printer calibrated the label length only to the RFID inlay instead of to the interlabel gap.	 Tap Menu > System > Settings, and then select FEED for the Power Up and Head Close actions. Manually calibrate the printer. See Performing Manual Sensor Calibration on page 132.
The printer voids every label.	The printer is not calibrated for the media being used.	Manually calibrate the printer. See Performing Manual Sensor Calibration on page 132.)
	You are using an RFID label with a tag type that is not supported by your printer.	These printers support only Gen 2 RFID labels. For more information, refer to RFID Programming Guide 3, or contact an authorized Zebra RFID reseller.
	The printer is unable to	1. Turn off (O) the printer.
	communicate with the RFID reader.	2. Wait 10 seconds.
		3. Turn on (I) the printer.
		4. If the problem persists, you may have a bad RFID reader or a loose connection between the RFID reader and the printer. Contact Technical Support or an authorized Zebra RFID service technician for assistance.
	Radio frequency (RF) interference from another RF source. The settings are incorrect in your label designer software.	Do one or more of the following as necessary:
		Move the printer away from fixed RFID readers or other RF sources.
		Make sure that the media door is closed at all times during RFID programming.
		The software settings override the printer settings. Make sure that the software and printer settings match.
	You are using an incorrect programming position, particularly if the tags being used are within printer specifications.	Do one or more of the following as necessary:
		Check the RFID programming position or the program position setting in your label designer software. If the position is incorrect, change the setting.
		Restore the RFID programming position back to the default value.
		For more information, refer to RFID Programming Guide 3. For transponder placement details, go to zebra.com/ transponders.

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
	You are sending RFID ZPL or SGD commands that are incorrect.	Check your label formats. For more information, refer to RFID Programming Guide 3.
Low yields. Too many RFID tags per roll are voided.	The RFID labels are not within specifications for the printer, which means that the transponder is not in an area that can be programmed consistently.	Make sure that the labels meet transponder placement specifications for your printer. See zebra.com/transponders for transponder placement information. For more information, refer to RFID Programming Guide 3, or contact an authorized Zebra RFID reseller.
	Incorrect read and write power levels.	Change the RFID read and write power levels. For instructions, refer to RFID Programming Guide 3.
	Radio frequency (RF)	Do one or more of the following as necessary:
	interference from another RF source.	Move the printer away from fixed RFID readers.
		Make sure that the media door is closed at all times during RFID programming.
	The printer is using outdated printer firmware and reader firmware versions.	Go to <u>zebra.com/firmware</u> for updated firmware.
RFID parameters do not appear in Setup	The printer was powered off (O) and then back on (I) too quickly for the RFID reader to initialize properly.	Wait at least 10 seconds after turning the printer power off before turning it back on.
mode, and RFID information does not		1. Turn off (O) the printer.
appear on the printer		2. Wait 10 seconds.
configuration label.		3. Turn on (I) the printer.
The printer does not void RFID labels that are not programmed correctly.		4. Check for the RFID parameters in Setup mode or for RFID information on a new configuration label.
	An incorrect version of printer firmware was loaded on the printer.	Verify that the correct firmware version is loaded on your printer. For more information, refer to RFID Programming Guide 3.
		Download the correct printer firmware if necessary.
		3. If the problem persists, contact Technical Support.

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
	The printer is unable to	1. Turn off (O) the printer.
	communicate with the RFID subsystem.	2. Wait 10 seconds.
		3. Turn on (I) the printer.
		4. If the problem persists, you may have a bad RFID reader or a loose connection between the RFID reader and the printer. Contact Technical Support or an authorized service technician for assistance.
The DATA light	The download was not	1. Turn off (O) the printer.
flashes indefinitely after you attempt to	successful. For optimal results, cycle power on the printer before downloading any firmware.	2. Wait 10 seconds.
download printer or reader firmware.		3. Turn on (I) the printer.
reader illiliware.	iiiiiware.	4. Attempt to download the firmware again.
		5. If the problem persists, contact Technical Support.

Communications Issues

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution	
Label Formats Not Recognized			
A label format was sent to the printer but was not recognized. The DATA light does not flash.	The communication parameters are incorrect.	Check the printer driver or software communications settings (if applicable) for your connection. You may wish to reinstall the printer driver following the instructions in Connecting the Printer to a Device on page 13.	
A label format was sent to the printer but was not recognized. The DATA	The prefix and delimiter characters set in the printer do not match the	Verify the prefix and delimiter characters using the following SGD commands. Modify the values if necessary.	
light flashes but no printing occurs.	ones in the label format.	• ! U1 getvar "zpl.format_prefix"	
		• ! U1 getvar "zpl.delimiter"	
	Incorrect data is being sent to the printer.	Check the communication settings on the computer. Ensure that they match the printer settings.	
		If the problem persists, check the label format.	
	The printer has an emulation active.	Verify that the label format matches the printer settings.	
Labels Stop Printing Correctly			
A label format was sent to	The serial communication settings are incorrect.	Ensure that the flow control settings match.	
the printer. Several labels print, then the printer skips, misplaces, misses, or distorts the image on		Check the communication cable length. See Communication Interface Specifications on page 214 for requirements.	
the label.		Check the printer driver or software communications settings (if applicable).	

Miscellaneous Issues

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution			
Issues with the Display	Issues with the Display				
The control panel display shows a language that I cannot read	The language parameter was changed through the control panel or a firmware command.	 On the Home screen, touch Menu (the icon on the bottom-left). Touch the top selection on the screen. Scroll through the language selections under this menu option. The selections for this parameter are displayed in the actual languages to make it easier for you to find one that you are able to read. Touch the language that you want to display to select it. Touch the Home icon to return to the Home screen. 			
The display is missing characters or parts of characters	The display may need replacing.	Call a service technician.			
The USB Host Port Is N	ot Acknowledging a USB Device	,			
The printer is not acknowledging a USB device or is not	The printer currently supports USB drives only up to 1 TB in size.	Use a USB drive that is 1 TB or smaller.			
reading the files on a USB device that is plugged into the USB host port.	The USB device may require its own external power.	If your USB device requires external power, make sure that it is plugged into a working power supply.			
Printer Parameters Are	Printer Parameters Are Not Set As Expected				
Changes in parameter settings did not take effect. OR	A firmware setting or command prevented the ability to change the parameter.	Check your label formats or the settings of the software that you use to send formats to the printer. If necessary, refer to the Programming Guide			
Some parameters changed unexpectedly.	A command in a label format changed the parameter back to the previous setting.	for ZPL, ZBI, Set-Get-Do, Mirror, and WML or call a service technician. A copy of the manual is available at <u>zebra.com/manuals</u> .			
IP Address Changing					

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution	
My printer reassigns a new IP address to the print server after the	The settings for your network are causing the network to reassign a new IP address.	If the printer changing IP addresses causes issues for you, follow these steps to assign it a static IP address:	
printer has been off for a while.		1. Find out what values need to be assigned to the IP address, subnet mask, and gateway for your print server (wired, wireless, or both).	
		2. Change the appropriate IP protocol value to PERMANENT.	
		3. Change the values for the IP address, subnet mask, and gateway for the appropriate print server to what you want them to remain.	
		4. Reset the network by touching Menu > Connections > Networks > Reset Network and then touching the checkmark to save the changes.	
Cannot Connect throug	h Wired or Wireless Connections		
I manually entered a wireless IP address, subnet, and gateway on my printer, but	The printer's network must be reset after values are changed.	Reset the network by touching Menu > Connections > Networks > Reset Network and then touching the checkmark to save the changes.	
it won't connect to my wired or wireless network.	An ESSID value has not been specified.	1. For a wireless connection, specify the ESSID value that matches the value used by your wireless router using the following Set/Get/Do command: ! U1 setvar "wlan.essid" "value" where "value" is the ESSID (sometimes called a network SSID) for your router. You can look on the back of your router for a sticker with the router's default information.	
		NOTE: If the information has been changed from the default, check with your network administrator for the ESSID value to use.	
		2. If the printer still does not connect, reset the network by touching Menu > Connections > Networks > Reset Network and then touching the checkmark to save the changes, and then power-cycle the printer.	

Issue	Possible Cause	Recommended Solution
	The ESSID or other value was not specified correctly.	Print a network configuration label and verify that your values are correct.
		2. Make corrections as necessary.
		3. Reset the network by touching Menu > Connections > Networks > Reset Network and then touching the checkmark to save the changes.
Calibration Issues		
Auto Calibrate failed.	The media or ribbon is loaded incorrectly.	Ensure that the media and ribbon are loaded correctly. See Loading the Ribbon on page 73 and Loading the Media on page 35.
	The sensors could not detect the media or ribbon.	Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.
	The sensors are dirty or positioned improperly.	Ensure that the sensors are clean and properly positioned.
	The media type is set incorrectly.	Set the printer for the correct media type (gap/notch, continuous, or mark).
Non-continuous labels are being	The printer was not calibrated for the media being used.	Calibrate the printer. See Calibrating the Ribbon and Media Sensors on page 131.
treated as continuous labels.	The printer is configured for continuous media.	Set the printer for the correct media type (gap/notch, continuous, or mark).
Printer Locks Up		
All indicator lights are on, nothing is on the display, and the printer locks up.	Internal electronic or firmware failure.	Power cycle the printer. If the problem persists, call a service technician.
The printer locks up while booting up.	Main logic board failure.	

Servicing the Printer

If you have a problem using the printer, contact your facility's technical or systems support. If there is a problem with the printer, they will contact the Zebra Global Customer Support Center at zebra.com/support.

Gather the following information before contacting Zebra Global Customer Support:

- Serial number of the unit
- Model number or product name
- · Firmware version number

Zebra responds to calls by e-mail, telephone, or fax within the time limits set forth in service agreements. If your problem cannot be solved by Zebra Global Customer Support, you may need to return your equipment for servicing and will be given specific directions.

If you purchased your product from a Zebra business partner, please contact that business partner for support.

Shipping the Printer

If you must ship the printer:

- **1.** Turn off (**O**) the printer, and disconnect all cables.
- **2.** Remove any media, ribbon, or loose objects from the printer interior.
- **3.** Close the printhead.
- **4.** Carefully pack the printer into the original container or a suitable alternate container to avoid damage during transit.

A shipping container can be purchased from Zebra if the original packaging has been lost or destroyed.



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IMPORTANT: Zebra is not responsible for any damages incurred during shipment if an approved shipping container is not used. Shipping the units improperly can possibly void the warranty.

The exercises presented here will help you learn how to use the optional USB host port and the printer's Print Touch feature with an Android™-based NFC-enabled device (such as a smartphone or a tablet).

Some SGD commands are listed as part of these exercises for advanced users.

Items Required for the Exercises

To perform the exercises in this document, you will need:

a USB Flash drive that is up to 1 Terabyte (1 TB)



NOTE: The printer will not recognize drives larger than 1 TB.

- a USB keyboard.
- the various files listed in Files for Completing the Exercises.
- the free Zebra Utilities app for your smartphone (search for Zebra Technologies in the Google Play store).

Files for Completing the Exercises

Most of the files you need to complete the exercises in these section are available on zebra.com in the form of a .ZIP file located here. Copy these files to your computer before you begin the exercises. Where possible, the contents of the files are shown. Contents of files that include coded content—which cannot be viewed either as text or as an image—are not included.

File 1: ZEBRA.BMP



File 2: SAMPLELABEL.TXT

This simple label format prints the Zebra logo and a line of text at the end of the mirroring exercise.

```
^XA
^FO100,75^XGE:zebra.bmp^FS
^FO100,475^A0N,50,50^FDMirror from USB Completed^FS
^XZ
```

File 3: LOGO.ZPL

File 4: USBSTOREDFILE.ZPL

This label format prints an image and text. This file will be stored on the USB memory device at the root level so that it can be printed.

```
CT~~CD,~CC^~CT~

^XA~TA012~JSN^LT0^LH0,0^JMA^PR4,4~SD15^LRN^CI0^XZ

~DG000.GRF,07680,024,,[image data]

^XA

^LS0

^SL0

^BY3,3,91^FT35,250^BCN,,Y,N^FC%,{,#^FD%d/%m/%Y^FS}

^FT608,325^XG000.GRF,1,1^FS

^FT26,75^A0N,28,28^FH\^FDThis label was printed from a format stored^FS

^FT26,125^A0N,28,28^FH\^FDon a USB Flash Memory drive. ^FS

BY3,3,90^FT33,425^BCN,,Y,N

^FD>:Zebra Technologies^FS

^PQ1,0,1,Y^XZ

^XA^ID000.GRF^FS^XZ
```

File 5: VLS_BONKGRF.ZPL

This file is included in the .ZIP file located here.

File 6: VLS_EIFFEL.ZPL

This file is included in the .ZIP file located here.

File 7: KEYBOARDINPUT.ZPL

This label format, used for the USB keyboard input exercise, does the following:

- · creates a barcode with the current date, based on your Real-Time Clock (RTC) setting
- · prints the Zebra logo graphic
- prints fixed text
- FN prompts you to enter your name, and the printer prints what you entered

```
^XA
^CI28
^BY2,3,91^FT38,184^BCN,,Y,N^FC%,{,#^FD%d/%m/%Y^FS
^FO385,75^XGE:zebra.bmp^FS
^FT40,70^A0N,28,28^FH\^FDThis label was printed using a keyboard input. ^FS
^FT35,260^A0N,28,28^FH\^FDThis label was printed by:^FS
^FT33,319^A0N,28,28^FN1"Enter Name"^FS
^XZ
```

File 8: SMARTDEVINPUT.ZPL

This is the same label format as the previous label, only with different text printing. This format is used for the smart device input exercise.

```
^XA
^CI28
^BY2,3,91^FT38,184^BCN,,Y,N^FC%,{,#^FD%d/%m/%Y^FS
^FO385,75^XGE:zebra.bmp^FS
^FT40,70^AON,28,28^FH\^FDThis label was printed using a smart device input.
^FS
^FT35,260^AON,28,28^FH\^FDThis label was printed by:^FS
^FT33,319^AON,28,28^FN1"Enter Name"^FS
^XZ
```

File 9: Firmware File

You may want to download a firmware file for your printer and copy it to your computer for use during the exercises. You may omit doing this if you wish.

You can download the latest firmware file from zebra.com/firmware.

USB Host

Your printer may be equipped with one or two USB host ports on the front panel. A USB host port allows you to connect USB devices—such as a keyboard, scanner, or USB Flash drive—to the printer. The exercises in this section will teach you how to perform USB mirror, how to transfer files to and from the printer, and how to provide information for which you are prompted and then print a label using that information.



IMPORTANT: When using a USB host port, files should be named only with 1 to 16 alphanumeric characters (A, a, B, b, C, c, ..., 0, 1, 2, 3, ...). Do not use Asian characters, Cyrillic characters, or accented characters in file names.



NOTE: Some functions may not work properly if there are underscores in a file name. Use periods instead.

Exercise 1: Copy Files to a USB Flash Drive and Perform USB Mirror

1. On your USB Flash Drive, create the following:



- · a folder called Zebra
- in that folder, three subfolders:
 - appl
 - commands
 - files
- 2. In the /appl folder, place a copy of the latest firmware for your printer.
- 3. In the /files folder, place the following file:

File 1: ZEBRA.BMP on page 199

- 4. In the /commands folder, place the following files:
 - File 2: SAMPLELABEL.TXT on page 199
 - File 3: LOGO.ZPL on page 199
- **5.** Insert the USB Flash drive into a USB host port on the front of your printer.
- 6. Observe the control panel and wait.

The following should happen:

• If the firmware on the USB Flash drive is different than what is on the printer, the firmware downloads to the printer. The printer then restarts and prints a printer configuration label. (If there

is no firmware on the USB Flash drive or if the firmware version is the same, the printer skips this action.)

- The printer downloads the files in the /files folder and briefly shows the names of the files that are downloading on the display.
- The printer executes any files in the /commands folder.
- The printer restarts and then displays this message: MIRROR PROCESSING FINISHED
- **7.** Remove the USB Flash drive from the printer.

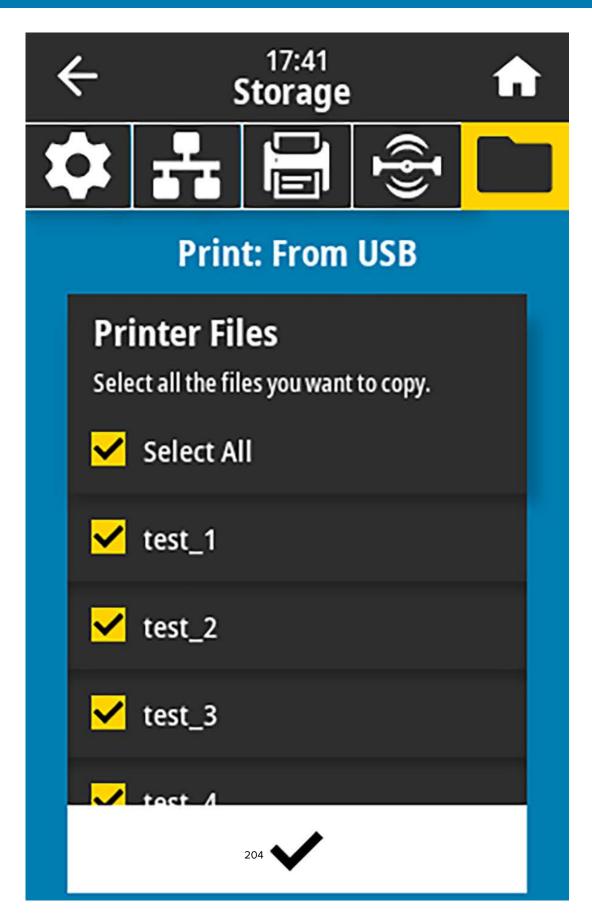
	Advance User Information		
See the Zebra Programming	Guide for more information about these commands.		
To enable/disable mirroring:	! U1 setvar "usb.mirror.enable" "value" Values: "on" or "off"		
To enable/disable automatic mirroring that occurs when a USB Flash drive is inserted into the USB host port:	! U1 setvar "usb.mirror.auto" "value" Values: "on" or "off"		
To specify the number of times that the mirror operation will be repeated if it fails:	! U1 setvar "usb.mirror.error_retry" "value" Values: 0 to 65535		
To change the path to the location on the USB device from which mirror files are retrieved:	! U1 setvar "usb.mirror.appl_path" "new_path" Default: "zebra/appl"		
To change the path to the location on the printer from which mirror files are retrieved:	! U1 setvar "usb.host.lock_out" "value" Default: "zebra"		
To enable/disable the ability to use the USB port:	! U1 setvar "usb.host.lock_out" "value" Values: "on" or "off"		

Exercise 2: Print a Label Format from a USB Flash Drive

The Print USB File option allows you to print files from a USB mass storage device, such as a USB Flash drive. Only printable files (.ZPL and .XML) may be printed from the USB mass storage device, and the files must be located at the root level, not in a directory.

- **1.** Copy the following files to your USB Flash drive:
 - File 4: USBSTOREDFILE.ZPL on page 199
 - File 5: VLS_BONKGRF.ZPL on page 199
 - File 6: VLS_EIFFEL.ZPL on page 199
- 2. Insert the USB Flash drive into a USB host port on the front of your printer.

3. Tap Menu > Storage > USB > Print: From USB.



The printer loads any executable files and processes them. The available files are listed. **SELECT ALL** is available to print all files on the USB Flash drive.

- 4. Select USBSTOREDFILE.zpl.
- **5.** Touch the checkmark to copy the files.

The label prints.

Exercise 3: Copy Files to/from a USB Flash Drive

The Copy USB File option allows you to copy files from a USB mass storage device to the printer's Flash memory E: drive.

- **1.** Copy the following files to the root directory of your USB Flash drive.
 - File 7: KEYBOARDINPUT.ZPL on page 200
 - File 8: SMARTDEVINPUT.ZPL on page 200



NOTE: Do not put these files into a subfolder.

- 2. Insert the USB Flash drive into a USB host port on the front of your printer.
- 3. Tap Menu > Storage > USB > Copy: Files to Printer.



The printer loads any executable files and processes them. The available files are listed. (If desired, you can use **Select All** to copy all the available files from the USB Flash drive.)

- 4. Select the files STOREFMT.ZPL. and STOREFMTM1.ZPL.
- Touch the checkmark to copy the files.The printer stores the files in E: memory.
- **6.** Remove the USB Flash drive from the USB host port.

You can now copy these files from the printer to a USB Flash drive by tapping **Menu** > **Storage** > **USB** > **Copy: Files to USB**.





The option **SELECT ALL** is available to store all the available files from the printer to the USB Flash drive. Any .ZPL file that is copied will be post-processed so that the contents of the file will be suitable to be sent to a printer for normal execution.

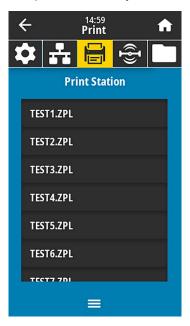
Exercise 4: Enter Data for a Stored File with a USB Keyboard and Print a Label

The Print Station feature allows you to use a USB Human Interface Device (HID), such as a keyboard or a barcode scanner, to enter ^FN field data into a *.ZPL template file.

1. After performing Exercise 3: Copy Files to/from a USB Flash Drive on page 205, plug a USB keyboard into a USB host port.

2. Tap Menu > Print > Print Station.

The printer loads any executable files and processes them. The available files are listed.



3. Select the file KEYBOARDINPUT.ZPL.

The printer accesses the file and prompts you for the information in the <code>^FN</code> fields in the file. In this case, it prompts you for your name.

4. Type your name on the keyboard, and then press **<ENTER>**.

The printer prompts for the number of labels to print.

5. Specify the desired quantity of labels, then press **<ENTER>** again.

The specified number of labels is printed, with your name in the appropriate fields.

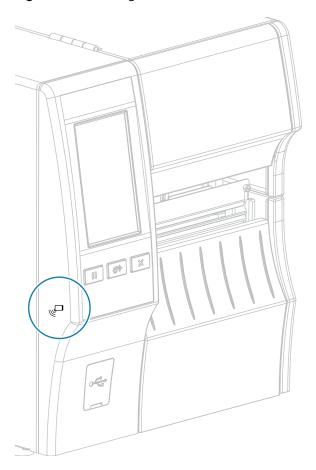
Print Touch/Near Field Communication (NFC)

The Zebra Print Touch feature allows you to touch an Android[™]-based, NFC-enabled device (such as a smart phone or tablet) to the printer's NFC logo to pair the device to the printer. This capability allows you to use your device to provide information for which you are prompted and then print a label using that information.



IMPORTANT: Some devices may not support NFC communication with the printer until you alter their settings. If you encounter difficulties, consult your service provider or your smart device manufacturer for more information.

Figure 12 NFC Logo Location



Exercise 5: Enter Data for a Stored File with a Device and Print a Label

The steps in this exercise may vary somewhat based on:

- your device (phone or tablet)
- your service provider
- · whether you already have the free Zebra Utilities app installed on your device

Refer to the Zebra Bluetooth User Guide for specific instructions for configuring your printer to use a Bluetooth interface. A copy of this manual is available at <u>zebra.com/manuals</u>.

- 1. Copy the SMARTDEVINPUT. ZPL file to your device.
- 2. If you do not have the Zebra Utilities app installed on your device, go to the app store for your device, search for the Zebra Setup Utilities app, and install it.
- If your phone supports NFC, pair your device with the printer by holding the device next to the icon on the printer. Otherwise, pair using the Bluetooth settings on your device.
 - **a)** If necessary, access the Bluetooth information about your printer using your device. For instructions, refer to the manufacturer's documentation for your device.
 - b) If necessary, select the Zebra printer's serial number to pair it with the device.
 - c) After your device has been detected by the printer, the printer may prompt you to accept or reject the pairing. If necessary, tap **ACCEPT**. Some devices will pair with the printer without this prompt.

The printer and your device are paired.

4. Start the Zebra Utilities app on your device.

The Zebra Utilities main menu displays.



5. Tap Available Files.

The smart device gets data from the printer and displays it.



NOTE: This retrieval process may take a minute or more to complete.

- **6.** Scroll through the formats shown and select SMARTDEVINPUT.ZPL.

 Based on the ^FN field in the label format, the device prompts you for your name.
- **7.** Enter your name at the prompt.
- **8.** Change the quantity of labels to print, if desired.
- **9.** Tap **Send to Printer** to print the label.

Specifications

This section lists general printer specifications, printing specifications, ribbon specifications, and media specifications.

General Specifications

	ZT411	ZT421	
	325 mm (12.8 in.)	325 mm (12.8 in.)	
	274 mm (10.8 in.)	335 mm (13.2 in.)	
	500 mm (19.7 in.)	500 mm (19.7 in.)	
	16 kg (36 lb)	18 kg (40 lb)	
Operating	Thermal Transfer: 5° to 40°C (40°F to 105°F)		
	Direct Thermal: 0° to 40°C (32°F to 105°F)		
Storage	-40° to 60°C (-40°F to 140°F)		
Operating	20% to 85%, non-condensing		
Storage	5% to 85%, non-condensing	5% to 85%, non-condensing	
	256 MB RAM (8 MB user availa	256 MB RAM (8 MB user available)	
	512 MB Flash (64 MB user available on-board Flash)		
	Storage Operating	325 mm (12.8 in.) 274 mm (10.8 in.) 500 mm (19.7 in.) 16 kg (36 lb) Operating Thermal Transfer: 5° to 40°C (40 Direct Thermal: 0° to 40°C (32°F) Storage -40° to 60°C (-40°F to 140°F) Operating 20% to 85%, non-condensing Storage 5% to 85%, non-condensing 256 MB RAM (8 MB user availa	



NOTE

* Applies to base printer model. Dimensions may vary depending on configuration, such as adding the optional rewind or linerless cutter.

Power Specifications

The following are typical values. Actual values vary from unit to unit and are affected by such things as the options installed and the printer settings

	ZT411	ZT421	
Electrical	100–240 VA	100–240 VAC, 50-60 Hz	
Power consumption	120 VAC	C, 60 Hz	
Inrush Current	< 35A peak8A RMS (half cycle)	< 40A peak8A RMS (half cycle)	
Energy Star Off Power (W)	0.08	0.08	
Energy Star Sleep Power (W)	4.14	4.14	
Print Power* (W)	98	215	
Print Power* (VA)	108	261	
Power consumption 230 VAC, 50 Hz		C, 50 Hz	
Inrush Current	< 80A peak12A RMS (half cycle)	< 90A peak15A RMS (half cycle)	
Energy Star Off Power (W)	0.18	0.18	
Energy Star Sleep Power (W)	4.26	4.26	
Print Power* (W)	97	209	
Print Power* (VA)	127	261	



NOTE: * Printing Pause self test labels at 6 ips with 4x6-in. or 6.5x4 in. labels, darkness 10, and direct thermal media.

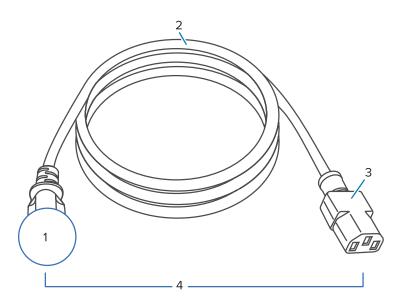
Power Cord Specifications

Depending on how your printer was ordered, a power cord may or may not be included. If one is not included, or if the one that is included is not suitable for your requirements, consider the following information.



CAUTION—PRODUCT DAMAGE: For personnel and equipment safety, always use an approved three-conductor power cord specific to the region or country intended for installation. This cord must use an IEC 320 female connector and the appropriate region-specific, three-conductor grounded plug configuration.

Figure 13 Power Cord Specifications



1	AC power plug for your country—This should bear the certification mark of at least one of the known international safety organizations (see Figure 14 International Safety Organization Certification Symbols on page 213). The chassis ground (earth) must be connected to ensure safety and reduce electromagnetic interference.
2	3-conductor HAR cable or other cable approved for your country.
3	IEC 320 connector—This should bear the certification mark of at least one of the known international safety organizations (see Figure 14 International Safety Organization Certification Symbols on page 213).
4	Length ≤ 3 m (9.8 ft). Rating 10 Amp, 250 VAC.

Figure 14 International Safety Organization Certification Symbols



Communication Interface Specifications

Figure 15 Location of Communication Interfaces



	Parallel port	•	Internal wired Ethernet print server
•::::•	Serial port	•	USB port



NOTE: You must supply all data cables for your application. The use of cable strain relief clamps is recommended.

Ethernet cables do not require shielding, but all other data cables must be fully shielded and fitted with metal or metalized connector shells. Unshielded data cables may increase radiated emissions above the regulated limits.

To minimize electrical noise pickup in the cable:

- Keep data cables as short as possible.
- Do not bundle the data cables tightly with the power cords.
- Do not tie the data cables to power wire conduits.

Standard Connections

Your printer supports a variety of standard connections.

Bluetooth Version 4.1

This feature is available only on certain models. To determine if your printer includes this feature, look at the part number sticker inside the media compartment. It is usually located below the media hanger.

The part number follows this format:

Part Number: ZTxxxxx - Xxxxxxxx

If the ending string of the part number (Xxxxxxxx) begins with the letter P, your printer does NOT include this feature.

Limitations and requirements	Many mobile devices can communicate with the printer within a 9.1-m (30-ft) radius of the printer.
Connections and configuration	Refer to the Zebra Bluetooth User Guide for specific instructions for configuring your printer to use a Bluetooth interface. This manual is available at zebra.com/manuals .

Two USB Host Ports

This feature is available only on certain models. To determine if your printer includes this feature, look at the part number sticker inside the media compartment. It is usually located below the media hanger.

The part number follows this format:

Part Number: ZTxxxxx - Xxxxxxx

If the ending string of the part number (Xxxxxxxx) begins with the letter P, your printer does NOT include this feature.

Limitations and requirements	You can plug only one device into each of the printer's two USB host ports. You cannot use a third device by plugging it into a USB port on one of the devices, nor can you use an adapter to split a USB host port on the printer to accept more than one device at a time.
Connections and configuration	No additional configuration is necessary.

Zebra PrintTouch/Near Field Communication (NFC)

Limitations and requirements	NFC communication must be initiated by touching your device to the appropriate location on the printer.
Connections and configuration	Some devices may not support NFC communication with the printer until you alter their settings.

USB 2.0 Data Interface

Limitations and requirements	A maximum cable length of 5m (16.4 ft).
Connections and configuration	No additional configuration is necessary.

Wired 10/100 Ethernet Print Server (Internal)

This standard ZebraNet Ethernet option stores network configuration information in the printer. An optional Ethernet connection stores configuration information on a removable print server board, which can be shared between printers.

shared between printers.	
Limitations and requirements	 The printer must be configured to use your LAN. A second wired print server can be installed in the bottom option slot.
Connections and configuration	Refer to the ZebraNet Wired and Wireless Print Servers User Guide for configuration instructions. This manual is available at zebra.com/manuals .

RS-232/C Serial Data Interface

Specifications Limitations and requirements	 2400 to 115000 baud parity, bits/character 7 or 8 data bit XON-XOFF, RTS/CTS, or DTR/DSR handshake protocol required 750mA at 5 V from pins 1 and 9 You must use a null-modem cable to connect to the printer or a null-modem adapter if using a standard modem cable. Maximum cable length of 15.24 m (50 ft). You may need to change printer parameters to match the host computer.
Connections and configuration	The baud rate, number of data and stop bits, the parity, and the XON/XOFF or DTR control must match those of the host computer.

Optional Connections

Your printer support these connectivity options.

Wireless Print Server

Specifications	See Wireless Specifications on page 218 for details.			
Limitations and requirements	Can print to the printer from any computer on your Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN).			
	Can communicate with the printer through the printer's web pages			
	The printer must be configured to use your WLAN.			
	Can be installed only in the top option slot.			
Connections and configuration	Refer to the ZebraNet Wired and Wireless Print Servers User Guide for configuration instructions. A copy of this manual is available at zebra.com/manuals .			

IEEE 1284 Bidirectional Parallel data interface

Limitations and requirements	Maximum cable length of 3 m (10 ft)			
	Recommended cable length of 1.83 m (6 ft)			
	No printer parameter changes required to match the host computer.			
	Can be installed in either the top or bottom option slot.			
	An IEEE 1284 cable is required.			
Connections and configuration	No additional configuration is necessary.			

Applicator Interface

Requirements	Must have a DB15F connector.
--------------	------------------------------

Wired 10/100 Ethernet Print Server (External)

This ZebraNet Ethernet option allows you to program network configuration information to the print server, which can be shared between printers. The standard Ethernet connection stores configuration information on the printer itself.

Requirements	Must have the parallel data interface option.
--------------	---

Wireless Specifications

Antenna Information

Туре	Patch; Gain = 3.66dBi @ 2.4GHz; Gain = 3.19dBi @ 5GHz; Impedance = 50 ohms
	Omni directional antenna gain 3dBi @ 2.4GHz; 5dBi @ 5GHz
	PCBA antenna gain = -30dBi @ 900MHz

WLAN Specifications

000 44 1	
802.11 b	• 2.4 GHz
	DSSS (DBPSK, DQPSK, and CCK)
	RF power 17.77 dBm (EIRP)
802.11 g	• 2.4 GHz
	OFDM (16-QAM and 64-QAM with BPSK, and QPSK)
	RF power 18.61 dBm (EIRP)
802.11 n	• 2.4 GHz
	OFDM (16-QAM and 64-QAM with BPSK, and QPSK)
	RF power 18.62 dBm (EIRP)
802.11 a/n	• 5.15-5.25 GHz, 5.25-5.35 GHz, 5.47-5.725 GHz
	OFDM (16-QAM and 64-QAM with BPSK and QPSK)
	RF power 17.89 dBm (EIRP)
802.11 ac	• 2.4 GHz, 5.18 - 5.24 GHz, 5.26-5.32 GHz, 5.5-5.7 GHz
	OFDM (up to 256-QAM with BPSK and QPSK)
	RF power 13.39 dBm (EIRP)
802.11 ax	• 2.4 GHz, 5.18 - 5.24 GHz, 5.26-5.32 GHz, 5.5-5.72 GHz, 5.745-5.825 GHz
	OFDM (up to 256-QAM with BPSK and QPSK)
	RF power (EIRP)
	9 dBm (BDR/EDR/LE)
	• 17 dBm (2.4G WLAN)
	• 19 dBm (UNII-1)
	• 18 dBm (UNII-2)
	• 18 dBm (UNII-3)

Printing Specifications

	ZT411	ZT421
Print resolution	203 dpi (dots/in.)	203 dpi (dots/in.)
	8 dots/mm	8 dots/mm
	300 dpi	300 dpi
	12 dots/mm	12 dots/mm

Specifications

		ZT411	ZT421
		600 dpi 24 dots/mm	N/A
Maximum print width	203 dpi	104 mm (4.09 in.)	168 mm (6.6 in.)
	300 dpi	104 mm (4.09 in.)	168 mm (6.6 in.)
	600 dpi	104 mm (4.09 in.)	N/A
Programmable constant print speeds	Linerless media	61 mm to 254 mm per second in 25.4-mm increments 2.4 in. to 10 in. per second in 1-in. increments	N/A
	Other media with 203 dpi printhead	61 mm to 356 mm per second in 25.4-mm increments	61 mm to 305 mm per second in 25.4-mm increments
		2.4 in. to 14 in. in 1-in. increments	2.4 in. to 12 in. in 1-in. increments
	Other media with 300 dpi printhead	61 mm to 254 mm per second in 25.4-mm increments 2.4 in. to 10 in. in 1-in.	61 mm to 254 mm per second in 25.4-mm increments 2.4 in. to 10 in. in 1-in.
		increments	increments
	Other media with 600 dpi printhead	38 mm to 102 mm per second in 25.4-mm increments 1.5 in. to 4 in. in 1-in. increments	N/A
Dot size (nominal) (width x length)	203 dpi	0.125 mm x 0.125 mm 0.0049 in. x 0.0049 in.	0.125 mm x 0.125 mm 0.0049 in. x 0.0049 in.
	300 dpi	0.084 mm x 0.099 mm 0.0033 in. x 0.0039 in.	0.084 mm x 0.099 mm 0.0033 in. x 0.0039 in.
	600 dpi	0.042 mm x 0.042 mm 0.0016 in. x 0.0016 in.	N/A
First dot location (measured from the	203 dpi	3.5 mm ± 1.25 mm 0.14 in. ± 0.05 in.	2.5 mm ± 0.9 mm 0.10 in. ± 0.035 in.
inside edge of the media)	300 dpi	2.1 mm ± 1.25 mm 0.08 in. ±0.05 in.	2.5 mm ± 0.9 mm 0.10 in. ± 0.035 in.

		ZT411	ZT421
	600 dpi		N/A
		0.08 in. ± 0.05 in.	
Barcode modulus (X) di	mension		
Picket fence	203 dpi	4.9 mil to 49 mil	5 mil to 50 mil
(nonrotated) orientation	300 dpi	3.3 mil to 33 mil	3.3 mil to 33 mil
	600 dpi	1.6 mil to 16 mil	N/A
Ladder (rotated)	203 dpi	4.9 mil to 49 mil	5 mil to 50 mil
orientation	300 dpi	3.9 mil to 39 mil	3.9 mil to 39 mil
	600 dpi	1.6 mil to 16 mil	N/A
Vertical registration	all print speeds and dpi	±1.0 mm	±1.0 mm
		0.04 in.	0.04 in.

Media Specifications

			ZT411	ZT421	
Label length	Minimum	Non-RFID	Non-RFID		
		Tear-off	12.7 mm (0.5 in.)	12.7 mm (0.5 in.)	
		Peel-off	12.7 mm (0.5 in.)	12.7 mm (0.5 in.)	
		Automation Friendly Extended Peel	38.1 mm (1.5 in.)	N/A	
		Rewind	12.7 mm (0.5 in.)	12.7 mm (0.5 in.)	
		Cutter	25.4 mm (1.0 in.)	25.4 mm (1.0 in.)	
		Linerless cutter	51 mm (2.0 in.)	N/A	
		RFID	Varies for each transponder type		
	Maximum	200 or 300 dpi	991 mm (39 in.)	991 mm (39 in.)	
		600 dpi	508 mm (20 in.)	N/A	
Maximum continuo	ous media print	200 dpi	3988 mm (157 in.)	2590 mm (102 in.)	
length		300 dpi	1854 mm (73 in.)	1143 mm (45 in.)	
		600 dpi	991 mm (39 in.)	N/A	
Label width	Minimum	Non-RFID	25.4 mm (1.0 in.)	51 mm (2 in.)	
		RFID	Varies for each trans	sponder type	
	Maximum	Tear-off, Cutter	114 mm (4.5 in.)	178 mm (7.0 in.)	

		ZT411	ZT421
	Linerless cutter	109 mm (4.3 in.)	N/A
	Peel-off, Rewind	108 mm (4.25 in.)	171 mm (6.75 in.)
Total thickness (includes liner, if any)	Minimum	0.058 mm (0.0023 in.)	0.058 mm (0.0023 in.)
	Maximum	0.25 mm (0.010 in.)	
Maximum roll outside diameter		203 mm on a 76-mm	inside diameter core
		8 in. on a 3-in. inside diameter core	
Inter-label gap*	Minimum	2 mm (0.079 in.)	
	Preferred	3 mm (0.118 in.)	
	Maximum	4 mm (0.157 in.)	
Ticket/tag notch size (width x length)*		6 mm x 3 mm (0.25 in. x 0.12 in.)	
Hole diameter*		3.18 mm (0.125 in.)	
Notch or hole position (centered from	Minimum	3.8 mm (0.15 in.)	
inner media edge)*	Maximum	57 mm (2.25 in.)	90 mm (3.5 in.)
Density, in Optical Density Units (ODU) (black mark)*		> 1.0 ODU	
Maximum media density*		≤ 0.5 ODU	
Transmissive media sensor		11 mm (7/16 in.) from inside edge	

^{*} Not applicable to linerless media.

Ribbon Specifications

Standard printers use ribbon that is coated on the outside. An optional ribbon spindle is available to use ribbon that is coated on the inside. Contact your authorized Zebra reseller for ordering information.

	ZT411	ZT421
Ribbon width MINIMUM*	51 mm** (2 in.**)	51 mm** (2 in.**)
Ribbon width MAXIMUM	110 mm (4.33 in.)	174 mm (6.85 in.)
Ribbon length MAXIUMUM	450 m (1476 ft)	
Ribbon core inside diameter	25 mm (1 in.)	
Ribbon roll outside diameter MAXIMUM	81.3 mm (3.2 in.)	

^{*} Zebra recommends using ribbon that is at least as wide as the media to protect the printhead from wear.

^{**} Depending on your application, you may be able to use ribbon narrower than 51 mm (2 in.), as long as the ribbon is wider than the media being used. To use a narrower ribbon, test the ribbon's performance with your media to assure that you get the desired results.

Glossary

alphanumeric

Indicating letters, numerals, and characters such as punctuation marks.

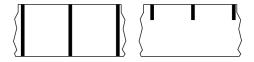
backfeed

When the printer pulls the media and ribbon (if used) backward into the printer so that the beginning of the label to be printed is properly positioned behind the printhead. Backfeed occurs when operating the printer in Tear-Off and Applicator modes.

barcode

A code by which alphanumeric characters can be represented by a series of adjacent stripes of different widths. Many different code schemes exist, such as the universal product code (UPC) or Code 39.

black mark media



Media with registration marks found on the underside of the print media that act as start-of-label indications for the printer. The reflective media sensor is the generally-selected option for use with black mark media.

Contrast this with continuous media on page 224 or gap/notch media on page 225.

calibration (of a printer)

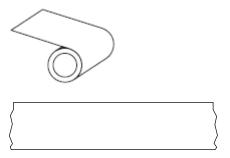
collection method

Select a media collection method that is compatible with your printer options. Selections include tear-off, peel-off, cutter, and rewind. The basic media and ribbon loading instructions are the same for all collection methods with some additional steps necessary for using any media collection options.

configuration

The printer configuration is a group of operating parameters specific to the printer application. Some parameters are user selectable, while others are dependent on the installed options and mode of operation. Parameters may be switch selectable, control panel programmable, or downloaded as ZPL II commands. A configuration label listing all the current printer parameters may be printed for reference.

continuous media



A transmissive (gap) sensor is typically used for the printer to detect when the media runs out.

Contrast this with black mark media on page 223 or gap/notch media on page 225.

core diameter

The inside diameter of the cardboard core at the center of a roll of media or ribbon.

diagnostics

Information about which printer functions are not working that is used for troubleshooting printer problems.

die-cut media

A type of label stock that has individual labels stuck to a media liner. The labels may be lined up against each other or separated by a small distance. Typically the material surrounding the labels has been removed. (See non-continuous media on page 228.)

direct thermal

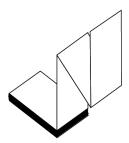
A printing method in which the printhead presses directly against the media. Heating the printhead elements causes a discoloration of the heat-sensitive coating on the media. By selectively heating the printhead elements as the media moves past, an image is printed onto the media. No ribbon is used with this printing method.

Contrast this with thermal transfer on page 231.

direct thermal media

Media that is coated with a substance that reacts to the application of direct heat from the printhead to produce an image.

fanfold media



Non-continuous media that comes folded in a rectangular stack and folded in a zigzag pattern. Fanfold media is either gap-notch media or black mark media, meaning it uses black marks or notches to track media format positioning.

Fanfold media can have the same label separations as non-continuous roll media. The separations fall either on or near the folds.

Contrast this with roll media on page 230.

firmware

This is the term used to specify the printer's operating program. This program is downloaded to the printer from a host computer and stored in flash memory. Each time the printer power is turned on, this operating program starts. This program controls when to feed the media forward or backward and when to print a dot on the label stock.

FLASH memory

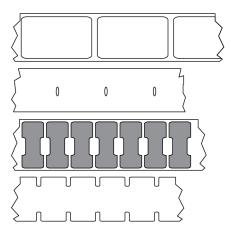
Non-volatile memory that maintains the stored information intact when power is off. This memory area is used to store the printer's operating program. Can also be used to store optional printer fonts, graphic formats, and complete label formats.

font

A complete set of alphanumeric characters in one style of type. Examples include CG Times $^{\text{\tiny{M}}}$, CG Triumvirate Bold Condensed $^{\text{\tiny{M}}}$.

gap/notch media

Media that contains a separation, notch, or hole, indicating where one label/printed format ends and the next begins.



Contrast this with black mark media on page 223 or continuous media on page 224.

ips (inches-per-second)

The speed at which the label or tag is printed. Many Zebra printers can print from 1 ips to 14 ips.

label

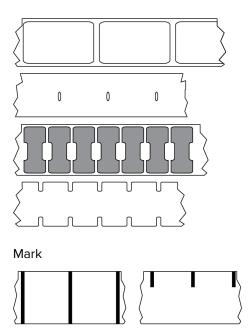
An adhesive-backed piece of paper, plastic, or other material on which information is printed. A non-continuous label has a defined length, as opposed to a continuous label or a receipt which can have a varying length.

label backing (liner)

The material on which labels are affixed during manufacture and which is discarded or recycled.

label type

he printer recognizes the following label types.
Continuous
Sap/Notch



LED (light emitting diode)

Indicators of specific printer status conditions. Each LED is either off, on, or blinking depending on the feature being monitored.

linerless media

Linerless media does not use backing to keep the layers of labels on a roll from sticking to one another. It is wound like a roll of tape, with the sticky side of one layer in contact with the non-sticky surface of the one below it.

Depending on the printer, individual labels may be separated by perforations, or they can be cut apart with a linerless cutter. Because there is no liner, more labels can potentially fit on a roll, cutting down the need to change media as often.

Linerless media is considered an environmentally friendly option because no backing is wasted, and the cost per label can be less than that of standard labels.

Zebra recommends using Zebra ZeroLiner direct thermal linerless media.

LCD (liquid crystal display)

A backlit display that provides the user with either operating status during normal operation or option menus when configuring the printer to a specific application.

mark media

See black mark media on page 223.

media

Material onto which data is printed by the printer. Types of media include: tag stock, die-cut labels, continuous labels (with and without media liner), non-continuous media, fanfold media, and roll media.

media sensor

This sensor is located behind the printhead to detect the presence of media and, for non-continuous media, the position of the web, hole, or notch used to indicate the start of each label.

media supply hangar

The stationary arm that supports the media roll.

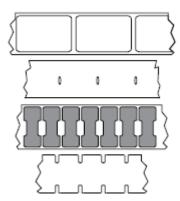
non-continuous media

Media that contains an indication of where one label/printed format ends and the next one begins. Types of non-continuous media include gap-notch media and black mark media. (Contrast this with continuous media.)

Non-continuous roll media usually comes in the form of labels with an adhesive backing on a liner. Tags (or tickets) are separated by perforations.

Individual labels or tags are tracked and position-controlled using one of these methods:

Web media separates labels by gaps, holes, or notches.



 Black mark media uses pre-printed black marks on the back side of the media to indicate label separations.



• Perforated media has holes—to allow the labels or tags to be separated from each other easily—along with position-control marks, notches, or label gaps.



non-volatile memory

Electronic memory that retains data even when the power to the printer is turned off.

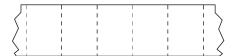
notched media

A type of tag stock containing a cutout area that can be sensed as a start-of-label indicator by the printer. This is typically a heavier, cardboard-like material that is either cut or torn away from the next tag. See gap/notch media on page 225.

peel-off mode

A mode of operation in which the printer peels a printed label away from the backing and allows the user to remove it before another label is printed. Printing pauses until the label is removed.

perforated media



Media with perforations that allow the labels or tags to be separated from each other easily. The media may also have black marks or other separations between labels or tags.

print speed

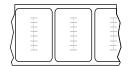
The speed at which printing occurs. For thermal transfer printers, this speed is expressed in terms of inches per second (ips).

print type

The print type specifies whether the type of media being used requires ribbon to print. Thermal transfer media requires ribbon while direct thermal media does not.

printhead wear

Radio frequency identification (RFID) "smart" media



Each RFID label has an RFID transponder (sometimes called an "inlay"), made of a chip and an antenna, embedded between the label and the liner. The shape of the transponder varies by manufacturer and is visible through the label. All "smart" labels have memory that can be read, and many have memory that can be encoded.

RFID media can be used in a printer that is equipped with an RFID reader/encoder. RFID labels are made from the same materials and adhesives as non-RFID labels.

receipt

A receipt is a variable length printout. One example of a receipt is in retail stores, where each purchased item occupies a separate line on the printout. Therefore, the more items purchased, the longer the receipt.

registration

Alignment of printing with respect to the top (vertical) or sides (horizontal) of a label or tag.

ribbon

Ribbon is a thin film that is coated on one side with wax, resin, or wax resin (usually called ink), which is transferred to the media during the thermal transfer process. Ink is transferred onto the media when heated by the small elements within the printhead.

Ribbon is only used with the thermal transfer print method. Direct thermal media does not use ribbon. When ribbon is used, it must be as wide as or wider than the media being used. If the ribbon is narrower than the media, areas of the printhead are unprotected and subject to premature wear. Zebra ribbons have a coating on the back that protects the printhead from wear.

ribbon wrinkle

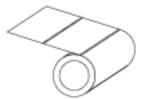
A wrinkling of the ribbon caused by improper alignment or improper printhead pressure. This wrinkle can cause voids in the print and/or the used ribbon to rewind unevenly. This condition should be corrected by performing adjustment procedures.

roll media

Media that comes supplied rolled onto a core (usually cardboard). It can be continuous (no separations between labels)



or non-continuous (some type of separation between labels).



Contrast this with fanfold media on page 225.

supplies

A general term for media and ribbon.

symbology

The term generally used when referring to a barcode.

tag stock

A type of media having no adhesive backing but featuring a hole or notch by which the tag can be hung on something. Tags are usually made of cardboard or other durable material and are typically perforated between tags. Tag stock can come on rolls or in a fanfold stack. (See gap/notch media on page 225.)

tear-off mode

A mode of operation in which the user tears the label or tag stock away from the remaining media by hand.

thermal transfer

A printing method in which the printhead presses an ink or resin coated ribbon against the media. Heating the printhead elements causes the ink or resin to transfer onto the media. By selectively heating the printhead elements as the media and ribbon move past, an image is printed onto the media.

Contrast this with direct thermal on page 224.

void

A space on which printing should have occurred, but did not due to an error condition such as wrinkled ribbon or faulty print elements. A void can cause a printed barcode symbol to be read incorrectly or not at all.



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