

Tip Sheet #3 Creating Color Bar Codes

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Here is a brief tutorial on how to create a color bar code using Bar Code Pro 5 for Mac OS X.

Each bar code symbol has two colors: one for the bars and text, and another for the spaces and quiet zones. The colors may be set using the color dialog.

The colors our eyes see, and how we describe color, are not the same as what a scanner sees. For example, most scanners cannot “see” magenta or yellow. No matter what values are entered for magenta or yellow, most scanners do not register these colors.

Conversely, printer inks differ widely in chemical composition. Though a pigment appears magenta, it may contain sufficient amounts of black to cause the scanners to recognize them as black. Do not rely solely on your eyes when verifying bar codes.

NOTE: Never use bar code graphics without verifying them first; especially if you are using color.

1. In your desktop publishing program (Illustrator, Quark, etc.), look up the **CMYK** values that your color is comprised of. Write down those percentages.

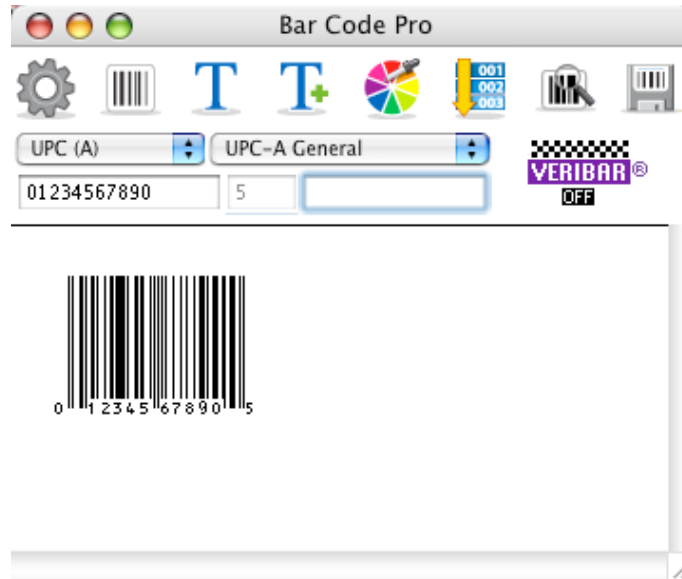
For example:

C = 62%

M = 68%

Y = 0%

K = 30%



2. Launch Bar Code Pro.

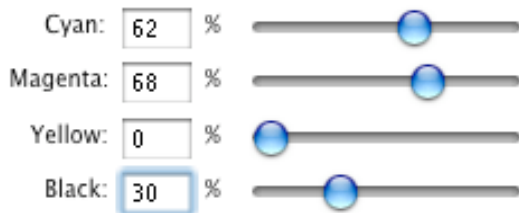
3. Click on the Color button:



4. Click on Spot or Process:

Type: Spot Process

5. Enter the **Cyan, Magenta, Yellow** and **Black** values you wrote down earlier.





Your color changes will show in the section titled NEW.

Bar Code Pro's ColorCheck technology automatically watches the color combinations used for Spot colors. If you are creating a Spot Color, Bar Code Pro's ColorCheck icon will show an OK status:



If the colors you are using are not suitable for Spot Color, ColorCheck will show an Error status:



6. If you want a transparent background for your bar code, check: Transparent Background

7. If you want print on the bars on all 4 plates during color separation, check: Overprint

6. Once you have finished with your settings, click OK.

7. Save your bar code and import it into your document.

For additional help, please contact technical support at the email address or phone number indicated below.

PLEASE NOTE: Technical support is not available from our toll free number. All registered users requiring technical support must call (718) 369-2944.

SNX

Technical Support

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