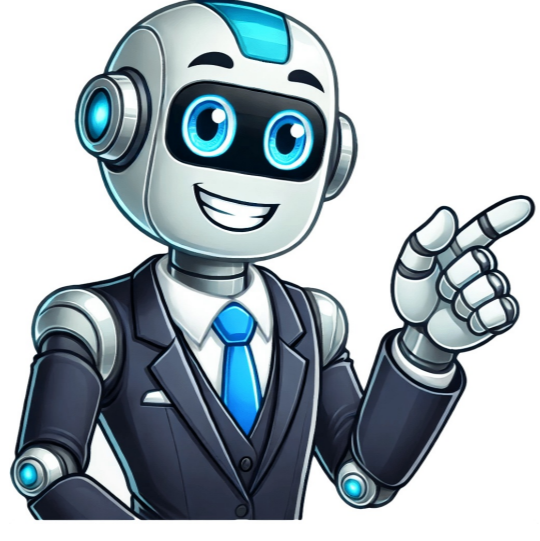


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to use barcodes in Excel, you need to download a barcode font and install it first. The most frequently used font is Code 39, and we will use it in examples. You can download the Code 39 font from various free sites for fonts downloading. We did it from Dafont (. Just click on the Download button next to the Code 39 font. The font will be downloaded in a ZIP folder in your Downloads folder (or wherever you download your files), as a .TTF file (TrueType font). Below are the steps to install the Barcode font on your system so it's also available in Excel: Double-click the ZIP folder of the Code 39 font (that you downloaded from the above link) Double-click the .TTF file (when you open a file, you can see the preview of the font) Click on Install. This will install the font on your system Close the dialog box Now, the font is installed on your computer and you can use it in applications such as MS Excel. In case you already have a file open, you should save and then reopen it to be able to see it in the barcode font. If you're wondering why this is called Code39, that's because it generates a barcode that has five bars and four spaces (so a total of 9). And three of these nine bars would have more width, hence the 3 in 39. Now that the barcode font is installed on your system, let's see how to use it to create barcodes in Excel. Before I show you how to convert numbers or alphanumeric characters into barcode, you need to know an important thing. The cells that has the numbers (that you want to convert to barcodes) need to be in the text format. Let me explain why this is important. Excel, in its bid to be as helpful as possible, does some automatic number formatting by default. For example, if you enter 0001 in a cell, it will be converted into 1 (as Excel thinks the leading zeroes are useless). Or if you enter a large number, say 123456789876, Excel will change it to 1.23457E+11. But when you're generating barcodes, you need the text or the number as is. You don't want Excel to change it. So by converting cells format to text, you ensure that the numbers don't get truncated or changed by Excel. IMPORTANT: You need to change the cell format before putting the numbers into the cells for which you want the barcode. So make the cell format Text first, and then enter the numbers. Here is how you can change the cell format to Text Select cells where you plan to have the numbers that you would convert to barcodes. In my example, I will select column A Click on General (Number Format) in the Number part of the Home tab Choose Text Once you have formatted the cells, you can enter the values that needs to be converted to Barcodes. In case you're copying this data from somewhere, make sure to paste it as values only (so it doesn't mess up our Text formatting). Now that you have the column formatted as Text, you can enter the values that you converted to barcodes. But I don't want to convert the values to barcodes. Instead, I would like to have the value as is and it's barcode in the adjacent cell. For this, I will have to have the same values in the adjacent column as well. This can be done easily, Below are the steps to copy values from column A to column B. In the cell B2, enter: =A2, Drag the formula down until the last populated cell in column A (A6). Don't worry about the formatting on column B. Excel will make sure the formatting is same as that of cells in column A. You can now format the values in column B as barcodes (font Code 39). Below are the steps to do this: Select all cells with values in column B Click on the Font menu in the Home tab Choose Code39 After this, you get all the values in column B formatted as barcodes. You can also increase the font size in order to make them more visible. Click on the font size menu in the Home tab Choose (for example) 26 As a result, you get a barcode for each text in column A. In our example, the barcode in column B is dynamic, which means that if the value in column A changes, the barcode would automatically update. In case you don't want this, you can convert the formula in column B to values. Note that when you install the font on your system, it doesn't work just in Excel. It would also work on other office applications such as MS Word and MS PowerPoint. Also read: How to Create a QR Code in Excel Code 39 is one of the easiest barcode font to use and includes both numbers and letters. This type displays each character as five bars and four spaces, while three bars are wider than the others. That's why it got the name 39. Apart from this type, you probably heard of other barcodes, such as Code 128 (similar to 39, usually used for shipping), or UPC/EAN (used for product barcodes). You can also install and use other barcodes in Excel similar to Code 39. If you're the curious type, here is some more information on different types of barcodes. Code 128: It is generally used for shipping and supply chain labels. In comparison with Code 39, the barcodes of Code 128 are denser and are usually used for container and pallet levels in the supply chain. It can also use the full ASCII character set, which Code39 can only use alphanumeric characters. UPC/EAN: UPC stands for Universal Product Code, EAN for European Article Numbering. This is a widely used barcode that can be found in items in-store and at the point of sale. The character set in UPC is restricted to 12 characters only. UPC-E: This is a simpler version of UPC, which was developed for smaller packages where the full 12 characters barcode of UPC won't fit. This is restricted to 6 digits, where the leading and trailing zeroes are omitted. QR: QR stands for Quick Response and is used to open a website or app when you scan it with a mobile phone camera. You will often find this as a printed code where you can use it to make payments or avail discounts. I2of5: It stands for (Interleaved 2 of 5), where 2 out of every five bars are wide. It is a high-density barcode that supports numeric characters. It is a two-row barcode that's used on 35 mm film rolls, and to label cartons. Postnet: It stands for Postal Numeric Encoding Technique and was used by the U.S. Postal Service. It can encode numeric characters only. Intelligent Mail: This one is currently used by the U.S. Postal Service. It encodes up to 65 characters. Apart from the width of the bars and spaces between them, even the height and vertical location of these bars can be read and converted into information. It uses numeric characters. Now that you know how to easily install the barcode font and use it to create barcodes from numbers and alphanumeric text strings, you can also use Excel to create random barcodes. Suppose you want to generate a random list of 20 barcodes. You can do that using the RANDBETWEEN formula, where you specify the lower and the upper limit and it will give you random numbers between these two values. For example, if you want to generate random numbers between 1 and 100, you can use the formula RANDBETWEEN(1,100) and enter it into 20 cells to get 20 random values. Below are the steps to generate random barcodes: In a cell, enter the formula =RANDBETWEEN(1,100) Copy the formula and paste it for 20 cells (or however number of random barcodes you want) Copy the entire range of cells that have these random numbers, and copy it (use Control + C or right-click and then click on Copy) With the cells selected, right-click and then click on the Paste as Values icon The above steps would generate a list of 20 random numbers and then we have converted these to values (as RANDBETWEEN is a volatile formula and would other keep on updating). Note that this can be done only with numbers. It's a bit harder to generate random alphanumeric strings. Now that you have random numbers, you can simply select these and apply the barcode formatting to to. To do this: Select the cells that have the numbers Click the Home tab Select Code39 as the font In case you want the numbers in a separate column and the barcodes in a separate column, you can first copy the numbers in the adjacent column and then apply the barcode font to it. While using the Excel barcode font technique works fine, there are other ways you can generate barcodes and then use in Excel. There are some decent web based tools as well as applications that you can check out. Some of the prominent bar codes generators include: Barcode.tec Cognex POSGuys Bartender Software So this is how you can use the Code 39 font to easily generate barcodes in Excel. I hope you found this tutorial useful. Other Excel tutorials you may also like: Watch Video - Create Barcode in Excel Steps: Download the IDAHC39M font and install it. Restart MS Excel. Select cell B5 and enter any number for your barcode. Go to the Home tab and the Number option. Set the format to Text. Enter the following formula in cell C5: You should get the results as shown below. Navigate to the Home tab and click on the Font Find the font IDAHC39M and select it. You should get your desired barcode. Drag the Fill handle to copy the format to other cells. Read More: How to Convert Numbers to Barcode in Excel Method 2 - Create Barcode in Excel for Random Number Steps: Select cell B5 and enter the following formula: You can set any numbers for the range. Press Enter to get a random number within the set range. Enter the following formula in cell C5: Set the font to IDAHC39M and hit Enter. You will get a random barcode. Click and drag the Fill Handle for both cells. Read More: How to Generate 2D Barcode in Excel Method 3 - Insert Barcode Using Excel TBarCode Add-In Steps: Download the latest version of the TBarCode Add-In. Install the Add-in. Restart your computer and open Excel, and you should see the Add-ins tab activated. Go to the Add-ins tab and click the TBarCode Panel. Set a barcode type and enter your number in the Data field. Set the Size to 'Fixed Module Width'. Hit the 'Insert Barcode' button. You will get the barcode in your set format. Read More: How to Create Barcode Without Font in Excel Download Practice Workbook This barcode API will generate a barcode image based on your data input and you can use it with the above URL. Append your data on the end in place of the part and the URL will generate an image for that data.Add the data you want to transform to a barcode in an Excel table. = "& {&[Product Code]}Add the above formula to table where {&[Product Code]} refers to the column containing the data to turn to a barcode. This is the URL that will generate the image in your Power BI data types.Now you will be able to import this data into the Power BI desktop app. Go to the Home tab and click on the Excel Workbook command.This will open a file picker where you can select the Excel file with your data.When you select your Excel file, this will open up the Navigator menu which lists all the sheets and tables in the file. Select the table that contains your data and press the Load button.Now go to the Model View in the Power BI desktop app. Select the table and toggle on the Is featured table option in the Properties window pan.When you toggle on the Is featured table option it will open the Set up this featured table menu and you'll need to select the Row label and Key column for your table.The Row label is the value that will display in cell for your data type.The Key column should be a unique value across all the rows in the table.The Row label and Key column can be the same column.Now that your table is set up as a featured table, you will need to set the URL column to an image type.Go to the Data View and select the column in your table with the API URL and choose Image URL in the Data category options.Your Power BI dataset is now ready to publish to the Power BI service. Go to the Home tab and click on the Publish command.This will open the Publish to Power BI menu where you will be able to select the workspace to which the dataset will be published. Note: Publishing to My workspace won't allow you to access the dataset as a data type in Excel. Choose any other workspace you have access to.Make sure you are signed into Excel with an account in the same tenant as the workspace where you published the Power BI data set. You can close and reopen Excel if you don't immediately see the new data type in the Data tab.Now you will be able to convert any text from the Row label column to a data type.Select the range of cells to convert to a data type.Go to the Data tab.Click on the button in the lower right of the Data Type tray in the Data Types section to expand and see all the available data types.Click on the newly created data type in the From your organization section. Thi converts the text to your custom data type. You will see a small briefcase icon to the left of the text to indicate it's now a data type.When you select the cells with your data types, you will see a small button on the top right of your selection. This is the extraction button andn it allows you to get any column of data from your data type.Click on the Extract button and select the URL column. This will extract the barcode image into the adjacent column.= B2.URL.This places the above dot formula referencing the data type cell and the URL displays as an image.This is really cool because the value in column B contains both the product code text and the image of the barcode for that product code.Using the Power BI data types to create a barcode image can be a complex process.Thankfully, there is a way to get the same image into Excel without the need to use Power BI and set up a data type.You can use the IMAGE function to create same barcode.The IMAGE functon takes a URL for an image and returns image in the cell.= IMAGE (" & B3)The above formula will append on the data in cell B3 to the end of the barcode API. Then in the IMAGE function will return an image of a barcode for that data in cell B3.Barcodes have been a long standing way to create scannable codes associated with physical items. You can easily make them in Excel.Using a custom barcode code font is the easiest method to generate barcodes, however they won't show as barcodes when you share the file to anyone without the font installed.Power BI data types can be used with an API to create bar code images inside a cell. But you will require a Power BI pro license to get it done.The best option in most cases is likely to generate your barcodes using the IMAGE function.Did you know you could make barcodes in Excel? Let me know in the comments section below!

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