Frequently Asked Questions

What's a QR code?

A QR code consists of black squares arranged in a square grid on a white background, which can be read by an imaging device such as a camera, and processed using Reed–Solomon error correction until the image can be appropriately interpreted. The required data is then extracted from patterns that are present in both horizontal and vertical components of the image. ("QR Code Essentials". Denso ADC. 2011. Retrieved 12 March 2013.)

Why should I care about QR codes?

Aside from its expanding usage in many different segments, QR codes are a low-tech way of augmenting analog or classic appliances. They are also capable of storing a very large scope of information and easily deployable in private and public spaces.

How can I print my QR code?

Using any decent printer with an acceptable dpi specification. Some rules need to be respected such as size and contrast. QR codes can also be displayed on a monitor or printed in 3D.

Where can I print my QR code?

The Internet has a large and very vast amount of resources to help users print anything on almost any material. QR codes can be printed on regular paper or adhesive labels, depending on the context.

How much does it cost to print QR codes?

A few pennies if one has the basic necessary equipment. It's always a good idea to test QR codes before either mass-printing them or custom-printing them to make sure they work in the conditions they will be used under.

Why won't my QR code scan?

There are certain circumstances under which QR codes may need to be scanned more than once to work and other circumstances where they don't work at all. The first one is usually the result of poor cameras or low-light conditions but it can also be due to the size being too small or the printout too blurry. If a QR code can't be scanned at all then the problem is usually more serious and this can be due to a corrupt encoding or limited support in the software stack for certain lengthier codes.

What else can I do with my QR code?

The sky's the limit but amongst other things QR codes can store: a) URL, b) Location, c) Contact Card, d) Event. They can also: a) Place a Phone Call, b) Send a Text Message, c) Send an Email Message, d) Post a Tweet. Users can use specialty apps to connect to services and authenticate themselves or pay for goods using QR codes. The Asian market was a very early adopter of QR codes and is heavily used in Japan, India and China.

Do I need Internet for my QR code to work?

An Internet connection is not required to scan and interpret QR codes. This isn't the case for QR codes that perform online actions or synchronizations. For example, a Contact Card can be scanned and added to a device's local storage but it won't be synced with the cloud until an Internet connection is found.

Which mobile devices support QR codes?

Almost every mobile device can run a QR code scanner app but not all of them have the same built-in camera sensors. As a rule of thumb any trans-generational iOS device will successfully interpret QR codes because Apple has always shipped premium sensors in their iPhones, iPods and iPads. Android device support on the other hand can vary between poor to mind-blowing, depending on the device manufacturer and model. HTC and Samsung devices top the list in terms of camera sensor quality and reliability.

Where can I find more information about QR codes?

Where else but Google? There are many popular websites like QR Monkey and QR Stuff that offer so many services and options things could get out of hand and seem complex. The best way to begin exploring QR codes is by installing any of the top 4 free QR scanners and generators available on the App Store or Google Play. Some of the paid ones are also worth the $1.99 or $2.99 price tag. Have fun discovering QR codes and don't forget we are always available at faq@facechime.net to answer your questions and maybe even add them to this FAQ!