

THE HAND-HELD BARCODE SCANNER

1. Plug scanner into a USB port.
2. Open Excel and place cursor in a cell.
3. Scan tube and voilà! The barcode number is automatically entered.
4. It really is this simple, at least using a Mac. Some PCs will, of course, have difficulties, but generally all goes well.
5. It can be tricky to get the scanner to read the barcode sometimes, but this is generally a problem with color/density contrast between the tube and the background. If you hold the tube in your fist with just the barcoded end sticking out, the scanner generally does a much better job. It can take a little practice, but soon you'll be as good as the guy at the grocery store!

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