



Manuals.plus /

› Zebra /

› Zebra DS8178 Wireless 2D/1D Barcode Scanner User Manual

## Zebra DS8178

# Zebra DS8178 Wireless 2D/1D Barcode Scanner User Manual

Model: DS8178

[Overview](#)   [Setup](#)   [Introduction](#)   [Safety Information](#)   [Package Contents](#)   [Product](#)  
[Operation](#)   [Maintenance](#)   [Troubleshooting](#)   [Specifications](#)   [Warranty & Support](#)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This user manual provides detailed instructions for the proper use and maintenance of your Zebra DS8178 Wireless 2D/1D Barcode Scanner. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating the device to ensure optimal performance and safety. The DS8178 is designed for efficient and reliable barcode scanning in various environments, offering both 1D and 2D barcode reading capabilities with wireless connectivity.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Observe the following safety precautions to prevent injury or damage to the device:

- Do not expose the scanner or cradle to extreme temperatures, moisture, or corrosive substances.
- Avoid direct eye exposure to the scanner's light source.
- Use only the specified power adapter and USB cable for charging.
- Do not attempt to disassemble or modify the device. Refer all servicing to qualified personnel.
- Keep the device away from strong magnetic fields.

## 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in your package:

- Zebra DS8178 Wireless Barcode Scanner
- USB Communication/Charging Cradle
- USB Cable

- Quick Start Guide (not included in this manual)

## 4. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

---

Familiarize yourself with the components of your Zebra DS8178 scanner and its cradle.





**Figure 4.1:** Side view of the Zebra DS8178 Wireless Barcode Scanner, showing its ergonomic design.





**Figure 4.2:** Front view of the Zebra DS8178 Wireless Barcode Scanner, highlighting the scanning window and trigger button.



**Figure 4.3:** Front view of the USB Communication/Charging Cradle, featuring the pairing button.



Figure 4.4: The Zebra DS8178 scanner securely docked in its USB cradle, ready for charging or communication.

#### 4.1 Scanner Components

- **Scan Window:** Area through which barcodes are read.
- **Trigger:** Activates the scanning beam.
- **LED Indicators:** Provide status feedback (e.g., battery, scan success).
- **Battery Compartment:** Houses the removable/rechargeable battery.

#### 4.2 Cradle Components

- **Scanner Slot:** Where the scanner docks for charging and communication.
- **USB Port:** Connects the cradle to a host device (PC, laptop).

- **Pairing Button:** Initiates Bluetooth pairing with the scanner.
- **LED Indicators:** Show cradle status (e.g., power, connection).

## 5. SETUP

---

### 5.1 Charging the Scanner

1. Connect the USB cable to the cradle's USB port.
2. Connect the other end of the USB cable to a powered USB port on your computer or a USB wall adapter.
3. Place the DS8178 scanner into the cradle. Ensure it is seated correctly.
4. The scanner's LED indicator will show charging status. A full charge typically takes approximately 3-4 hours.

### 5.2 Connecting the Cradle to a Host Device

The cradle connects to your computer via a standard USB cable.

1. Plug the USB cable into the USB port on the back of the cradle.
2. Connect the other end of the USB cable to an available USB port on your desktop or laptop computer.
3. The operating system should automatically detect and install the necessary drivers.

### 5.3 Bluetooth Pairing

The DS8178 offers two primary Bluetooth pairing methods: via the cradle or direct to a host device.

#### 5.3.1 Pairing via Cradle (Recommended for PC/Laptop)

1. Ensure the cradle is connected to your host device (PC/Laptop) via USB.
2. Place the DS8178 scanner into the cradle.
3. The scanner will automatically pair with the cradle. Once paired, the scanner can be removed from the cradle and will communicate wirelessly with the host device through the cradle.
4. A successful connection is indicated by a specific LED pattern on both the scanner and cradle (refer to the scanner's LED guide for details).

#### 5.3.2 Direct Bluetooth Pairing (for Phones/Tablets or PC/Laptop without cradle)

1. Power on the DS8178 scanner.
2. Scan the "Pairing Barcode" (usually found in a quick start guide or on the scanner itself) to put the scanner into discoverable mode. Alternatively, press and hold the Bluetooth pairing button on the scanner (if available) or scan a specific Bluetooth pairing configuration barcode.
3. On your phone, tablet, or computer, navigate to the Bluetooth settings.
4. Search for available devices. The DS8178 should appear in the list (e.g., "Zebra DS8178").
5. Select the scanner to initiate pairing. You may be prompted to confirm a passkey or scan a pairing barcode displayed on your screen.
6. Once paired, the scanner's LED will indicate a successful connection.

## 6. OPERATION

---

### 6.1 Scanning Barcodes

1. Point the scan window of the DS8178 scanner at the barcode you wish to read.
2. Press and hold the trigger button. A red aiming pattern will appear.

3. Center the aiming pattern over the barcode. For 1D barcodes, the aiming line should cross the entire barcode. For 2D barcodes, the aiming pattern should encompass the entire code.
4. Once the barcode is successfully read, the scanner will emit an audible beep and/or the LED indicator will flash green.
5. Release the trigger.

## 6.2 Cordless Range

The Zebra DS8178 offers a cordless range of up to 330 feet (100 meters) from its cradle or directly paired host device, depending on environmental conditions and line of sight. Obstructions such as walls or other electronic devices may reduce the effective range.

## 6.3 Scanning Modes

- **Trigger Mode:** The scanner reads a barcode only when the trigger is pressed.
- **Presentation Mode (Hands-Free):** When placed in the presentation cradle, the scanner can be configured to automatically detect and read barcodes placed within its field of view without requiring a trigger press. This mode is ideal for high-volume scanning applications.

# 7. MAINTENANCE

---

## 7.1 Cleaning the Scanner

To maintain optimal scanning performance, keep the scan window clean.

- Use a soft, clean, lint-free cloth dampened with water or a mild cleaning solution (e.g., isopropyl alcohol).
- Gently wipe the scan window and the exterior of the scanner.
- Do not use abrasive cleaners, solvents, or harsh chemicals.
- Ensure the scanner is powered off before cleaning.

## 7.2 Battery Care

The DS8178 features a 2500mAh removable and rechargeable battery. Proper battery care extends its lifespan.

- Charge the battery fully before first use.
- Avoid completely discharging the battery regularly.
- Store the scanner in a cool, dry place when not in use for extended periods.
- If the battery performance significantly degrades, it may need replacement. Contact support for genuine replacement batteries.

# 8. TROUBLESHOOTING

---

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Scanner not powering on.	Low or depleted battery.	Charge the scanner using the USB cradle and cable.
Scanner not connecting via Bluetooth.	Not in pairing mode; out of range; interference; host device Bluetooth off.	Ensure scanner is in pairing mode. Check host device Bluetooth settings. Move closer to the host device. Reduce interference.
Scanner not reading barcodes.	Barcode damaged/poor quality; scan window dirty; incorrect symbology enabled; scanner not aimed correctly.	Try scanning a different barcode. Clean the scan window. Ensure correct aiming. Check scanner configuration for enabled symbologies.
No data transmitted to host.	Not paired; application not in focus; incorrect interface settings.	Confirm successful Bluetooth pairing. Ensure the target application (e.g., text editor, POS software) is active and ready to receive input.

## 9. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model	DS8178
Brand	Zebra (formerly Symbol)
Connectivity Technology	Bluetooth, USB Cable, Wireless
Compatible Devices	Desktop, Laptop, Phones, Tablets
Power Source	Battery Powered, Corded Electric, Rechargeable
Battery Capacity	2500mAh (Removable/Rechargeable)
Cordless Range	Up to 330 feet (100 meters)
Scanning Capability	1D and 2D Barcodes
Real Angle of View	17 Degrees
UPC / GTIN	649661651499

## 10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This Zebra DS8178 Barcode Scanner comes with a **90-day limited warranty**. This warranty covers defects in materials and workmanship under normal use. It does not cover damage caused by misuse, accidents, unauthorized modifications, or external causes.

For technical support, warranty claims, or to purchase genuine replacement parts (such as batteries), please contact your reseller or visit the official Zebra support website. Please have your model number (DS8178) and any purchase information ready when contacting support.

