Loading Roll Media

When you load media, you must place the roll onto the media hangers. You must use the correct media for the type of printing you require.

Preparing Media

Whether your roll media is inside or outside wound, you load it into the printer the same way.

• Remove the outside length of media. During shipment, handling, or storage, the roll may become dirty or dusty. Removing the outside length of media avoids dragging adhesive or dirty media between the printhead and platen.
Placing the Roll in the Media Compartment

1. Open the printer. Remember that you need to pull the release latch levers toward the front of the printer.

2. Open the media roll holders. Pull the media guides open with your free hand and place the media roll on the roll holders and release the guides. Orient the media roll so that its printing surface will face up as it passes over the platen (drive) roller.
3. If your printer includes the moveable blackline sensor option, verify that the sensor is aligned in the center default position. This is the standard operating position for media sensing. When the sensor is moved from the default label web (gap) sensing area, the printer will only detect blackline, black mark and die-cut notched media. See Moveable Blackline Sensor Option on page 55 for more details on adjusting this sensor option.
4. Pull the media so that it extends out of the front of the printer. Verify the roll turns freely. The roll must not sit in the bottom of the media compartment. Verify that the media’s printing surface is facing up.

5. Push the media under both of the media guides.

6. Close the printer. Press down until the cover snaps closed.
Moveable Blackline Sensor Option

The factory installed moveable blackline sensor option allows the printer to use media with black marks or notches (holes) on the back side of the media (or media liner) that are not located in the center of the media.

The moveable sensor’s second functional feature is adjustable transmissive web (gap) sensing to positions that match legacy Zebra® desktop printer sensor locations and in between. This provides for use of some non standard media variations or irregularly shaped media.

The moveable blackline sensor can not properly sense continuous media or labels (for inter-label gap sensing) if the sensor is not in the default sensing area for web (gap) sensing. See Adjusting the Moveable Sensor for Web (Gap) Sensing on page 58.
Adjusting the Moveable Sensor for Black Marks or Notches

The blackline sensor looks for non-reflective surfaces such as black marks, black lines, notches or holes in the media which do not reflect the sensor’s beam back to the sensor’s detector. The sensor and it’s black mark detector are next to each other under the sensor cover (dark plastic cover translucent to the sensor’s non-visible light).

The sensor can be adjusted by two methods:
1) Preferred - Aligning the movable sensor’s alignment arrow to the right side of a black mark or notch located in the center or left side of the printer, or
2) Align the center of the sensor cover under the oval notch or a right hand black mark (or notch).

The sensor should be set as far as possible from the edge of media. The media can move from side to side and notches cut into the side of the media can become damaged.

Load the media. Before closing the printer, adjust the moveable blackline sensor as follows:

1. Flip the media back over the roll to expose the black marks or notches on the backside (non printing side) of the media.
2. Slide the moveable sensor from the center default position to align with the black marks. The arrow on the moveable sensor should line up with the right edge of the black mark. This is true for marks or notches located on either side of the media (left side shown).
Adjusting the Moveable Sensor for Web (Gap) Sensing

The moveable sensor supports the web/gap positions used by the legacy Zebra® desktop printer models and for some non standard media configurations. The G-Series™ printer’s web (gap) sensing in the standard (fixed position) or the moveable sensor’s default position are offset from the center of the printer to allow for gap sensing of labels that are side by side on a roll - see below.

Web (Gap) sensing with the movable sensor can only function when the sensor’s alignment arrow points to any position on the alignment key. The sensor must be aligned with the labels (or other media) to sense the gap between the labels. The example above shows where the sensor is set if center aligned positioning is used. It will miss sensing labels with a 2-up label configuration and with the sensor in the ‘default’ position, it will be able to detect labels and the gaps between them.

- Default — Zebra Models: G-Series™ fixed position sensors, LP/TLP 2842™, LP/TLP 2844™, LP/TLP 2042™
- Center Aligned — Zebra Model: LP/TLP 2742™