



2.2.2.1 GTIN-13

One of the most commonly used identification numbers in the GS1 System is the GTIN-13. The GTIN-13 is formed using a GS1 Company Prefix (allocated by GS1 Australia or one of the other GS1 Member Organisations), an Item Reference (allocated sequentially by the member company) and a Check Digit (which is mathematically calculated and ensures the whole number is correct).

How you allocate a GTIN-13 depends on the length of your assigned GS1 Company Prefix. For GS1 Australia members this depends on whether you joined GS1 Australia prior to May 1996, in which case you were allocated a seven-digit GS1 Company Prefix or after May 1996 and were allocated a seven- to nine-digit GS1 Company Prefix.

Individual Bar Code Number Subscriber Members do not have a GS1 Company Prefix but are allocated the entire GTIN-13.

If a trade item identified with a GTIN-13 is to be scanned at Point-of-Sale, the GTIN-13 should be encoded in an EAN-13 Bar Code (or GS1 DataBar Bar Code under conditions described in the note below)

Note: GS1 DataBar has been approved for bilateral use between trading partners from 2010. In 2014 GS1 DataBar becomes an open symbology and all scanning environments must be able to read these symbols.

For details on the EAN-13 Bar Code, including dimensions, please refer to chapter 9, section 9.2.1 EAN-13 Symbol Specifications on page 195. For details on GS1 DataBar refer to chapter 6, section 6.2.9 GS1 DataBar Symbol Specifications on page 214.

	GS1 Company Prefix	Item Reference	Check Digit
Nine-Digit GS1 Company Prefix	$n_1 n_2 n_3 n_4 n_5 n_6 n_7 n_8 n_9$	$n_{10} n_{11} n_{12}$	n_{13}
Seven-Digit GS1 Company Prefix	$n_1 n_2 n_3 n_4 n_5 n_6 n_7$	$n_8 n_9 n_{10} n_{11} n_{12}$	n_{13}

TABLE 6 GTIN-13 Structure

The GS1 Company Prefix is allocated to you as a member company.

The Item Reference is a non-significant number that is allocated by the member company. It is purely for identification purposes and the individual digits in the number do not relate to anything or convey any specific item information. It is recommended that the Item Reference is allocated sequentially and that each item is numbered to the lowest level of identification, for example: size, colour, model, finish, type, style.

The Check Digit is mathematically calculated to ensure that the whole number is correct. Correct calculation is essential for successful scanning of the bar code.

A Check Digit Calculator Program which will automatically calculate the Check Digit can be obtained from the GS1 Australia web site at www.gs1au.org.

For instruction on manually calculating the Check Digit please refer to "Manual Check Digit Calculation" on page 56.

For either method of calculating the Check Digit use the GTIN-13 option.

