

# Adding barcodes to items

Added: Version 4.01

Assigning barcodes to items is an important setup activity. It is this step that enables mSupply to recognise which item a particular barcode belongs to.

You can add barcodes to items before or during the goods receipt process. The process described here is used for both - to see how the goods receipt process fits in, see [Barcode scanning and receiving goods](#).

To start the process, view the details page of the item you want to add barcodes to (go to *Item > Show items...*, click on the OK button, double-click on the item you want in the list). Then click on the Barcodes tab on the left hand side of the details window:

The screenshot shows the 'Item details...' window with the 'Barcodes' tab selected in the left sidebar. The window is divided into several sections:

- General:** Item name (test item 01), Item code (test01), Store (General), Units (None), Department (None), Category (None), Category 2 (None), Category 3 (None), Interaction group (None), Item flag, Universal code, Hold: do not issue, Issue in builds only, Allow pack to one conversion, Convert pack to 1 when receiving.
- Pricing:** Default margin (0), Default sell price of preferred packsize (0.00), Price editable when issuing.
- Full description:** A large text area for the item's full description.
- VEN Category:** Radio buttons for Not assigned, Vital, Essential, and Necessary.
- Stock category:** Checkboxes for Normal stock, Critical stock, and On essential drug list.
- Custom fields:** A list of user-defined fields (user\_field\_1 through user\_field\_7) with input boxes.
- Shelf locations:** Fields for Shelf location, Bulk shelf location, Preferred pack size, Volume per pack, Outer pack size, Outer pack volume, and Weight per pack.
- Restricted to:** A dropdown menu.

At the bottom of the window are buttons for 'Delete', 'OK & Previous', 'OK & Next', 'Cancel', and 'OK'.

This will show you a list of the current barcodes assigned to the item:

Item details...

General  
Misc  
Usage  
Stock  
Ledger  
Quotes  
Backorders  
Notes  
Reconcile  
Bill of materials  
Purchase Orders  
Order options  
Dispensing  
Reporting  
Log  
Requisitions  
Stores  
Barcodes

Item name: Test item 03  
Item code: test03  
Store: General

Add Delete

Number	Manufacturer	Pack size	Barcode	Parent

Delete OK & Previous OK & Next Cancel OK

This item currently has no barcodes assigned to it but this is the information each column displays:

- **Number:** a sequential number for each barcode, starting at 1
- **Manufacturer:** the name of the manufacturer of the medicine
- **Pack size:** the number of individual items (tablets, bottles etc.) in the pack this barcode represents
- **Barcode:** the human readable form of the barcode, just the identifier and the 14 digit GTIN. An identifier of 01 indicates a global GS1 barcode, an identifier of 04x identifies an internal mSupply barcode (assigned because the manufacturer didn't put one on the item's packaging)
- **Parent:** the number (shown in the Number column) of the barcode that is the parent (i.e. has the next largest pack size) of this barcode



GS1 barcodes are unique to the combination of item, pack size and manufacturer.

Previous: [Barcode scanning introduction and setup](#) Next: [Barcode scanning and receiving goods](#)

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