

Introduction

With your PT-1290, you can create labels for any application. Select from the many frames, character sizes and styles to design beautiful custom labels. In addition, the variety of tape cartridges available allows you to print labels with different widths and exciting colors.

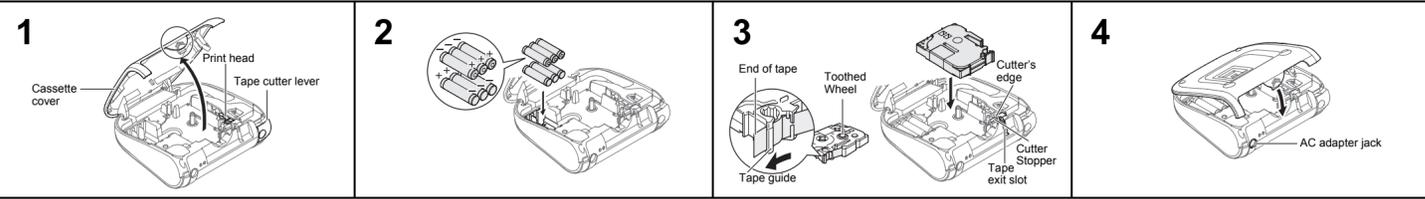
Read this manual carefully before starting and keep the manual in a handy place for future reference.

Industry Canada Compliance Statement (Canada Only)
This Class B digital apparatus complies with Canadian ICES-003.

Printed in China
LW3911001



Power Supply and Tape Cassette



1 Open the cassette cover by pressing the above indicated area at the top end of the machine.

If a tape cassette is already installed, remove it by pulling it straight up. Also, if batteries are already installed, remove them.

- Make sure that the power is turned off when replacing batteries or tape cassettes.

2 Insert six new AAA alkaline batteries (LR03), making sure that their poles point in the correct directions. Always replace all six batteries at the same time using brand new ones.

3 Insert a tape cassette, making sure that it snaps into place.

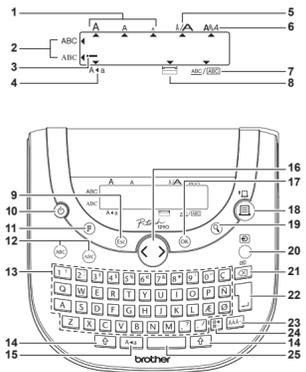
- Make sure that the end of the tape feeds under the tape guides.
- If the ink ribbon is loose, use your finger to wind the toothed wheel in the direction of the arrow on the cassette.
- Use only Brother TZ tapes with this machine.

4 Securely close the cassette cover, making sure that it snaps into place.

After you have installed the tape, feed the tape (see "Feeding") once and then push in the tape cutter lever to cut the tape.

- NOTE**
- When using optional AC adapter (AD-24ES)
 - Insert the plug on the adapter cord into the AC adapter jack on the top end of the machine.
 - Insert the plug into the nearest standard electrical outlet. For memory back up, we recommend using AAA alkaline batteries (LR03) together when using the AC adapter.

LCD Display & Keyboard



- Size
- Font
- Cursor
- Caps
- Width
- Style
- Underline/Frame
- Label Length
- Escape key
- Power key
- Function key
- Font keys
- Character key
- Shift key
- Caps key
- Cursor key (Use with Shift key to go to top/end of the text.)
- OK key
- Print/Feed key
- Preview key
- DECO MODE key
- Backspace key
- Enter key
- Accent key
- Symbol key
- Space key

NOTE
The LCD shows one row of 15 characters; however, the text that you enter can be up to 80 characters in length.

Safety Precautions

Warning

Follow these guidelines to avoid fire, burns, injury, electric shock, rupture, heat, abnormal odor and smoking.

- Always use the specified voltage and the suggested AC adapter (AD-24ES) for this machine to prevent any damage or failure.
- Unplug the power cord immediately and stop using the P-touch labeler during an electrical storm.
- Do not use the machine/AC adapter in places of high humidity such as bathrooms.
- Do not overload the power cord.
- Do not place heavy objects on, or damage the power cord or plug. Do not forcibly bend or pull the power cord. When disconnecting the power cord from the power outlet, always hold the plug.
- Make sure that the plug is fully inserted to the power outlet. Do not use an outlet that is loose.
- Do not put the cutter stopper in your mouth. Keep it out of the reach of children.
- Do not get the machine/AC adapter/power plug wet, such as by handling them with wet hands or spilling beverages on to them.
- Do not disassemble or modify the P-touch labeler/AC adapter/batteries.
- Do not use metallic objects, such as tweezers or a metallic pen, when changing the batteries.
- Do not throw the batteries into fire or expose to heat.
- Disconnect the AC adapter, remove batteries immediately and stop using the machine if you notice abnormal odor, heat, discoloration, deformation or anything unusual while using or storing it.

Caution

Follow these guidelines to avoid personal injury, liquid leakage, heat and burns.

- Do not touch the edge of the cutter or any metal parts near the print head.
- Remove the batteries and disconnect the AC adapter if you do not intend to use P-touch labeler for an extended period of time.

General Precautions

- Depending on the location, material, and environmental conditions, the label may unpeel or become irremovable, the color of the label may change or be transferred to other objects. Before applying the label, check the environmental condition and the material.
- Do not use the P-touch labeler in any way or for any purpose not described in this guide. Doing so may result in accidents or damage to the machine.
- Use only Brother TZ tapes with this machine. Do not use tapes that do not have the **TZ** mark.
- Only use a soft, dry cloth to clean the labeler; never use alcohol or other organic solvents.
- Use a soft wipe to clean the print head; never touch the print head.
- Do not put any foreign objects into the tape exit slot or AC adapter connector, etc.
- Do not place the P-touch labeler/battery in direct sunlight or rain, near heaters or other hot appliances, in any location exposed to extremely high or low temperatures (e.g. on the dashboard or in the back of your car), high humidity, or dusty locations.
- Do not apply excessive pressure to the cutter lever.
- Do not try to print if the cassette is empty; it will damage the print head.
- Do not pull the tape while printing or feeding; it will damage the tape and machine.
- Any data stored in memory will be lost due to failure or repair of the P-touch labeler, or if the battery expires.

Entering Text

Setting Font



Label image (Helsinki) Label image (Bohemia)

Switching Upper Case/Lower Case



Upper case (ON) Lower case (OFF)

Making Two Lines of Text

Move the cursor to where the second line starts and press

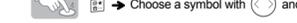


Use either 9mm (3/8") or 12mm (1/2") wide tape for two line text.



Entering Symbols

Choose a symbol with



press

- Refer to the table of symbols (A) on the enclosed insertion sheet for a list of available symbols.
- To go to the next group, press
- To cancel operations, press

Entering Accented Characters



Refer to the table of accented characters (B) on the enclosed insertion sheet for a list of available accented characters.

- To cancel operations, press
- The order of accented characters differs by the selected LCD language.

To Clear

By pressing, the letters will be deleted one by one.



To delete all text and settings:



To delete text only:



Printing Labels

Text Preview

You can preview the text before printing.



- The LCD shows the whole text and the label length (mm/inch), then returns to the original text.
- Only the text can be previewed, not the font, style, size, underline/frame or any additional features.

Feeding (Tape Feed)

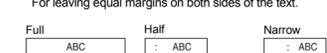


Setting Margin



[Full]/[Half]/[Narrow] Chain Print

For leaving equal margins on both sides of the text.



Chain Print

For creating a label containing text in various styles.

- Enter text.
- Press, then [OK to Feed?] appears.
- Press to enter more texts. Press to feed and print.



appears. Press to clear. Press to cancel.

- When you access DECO MODE, your most recently printed DECO MODE text and label length will be recalled.
- Press to return to the previous step.

• To exit DECO MODE, press until the display shows the text entry screen.

• DECO MODE feature is only available when using 12mm (1/2") wide tape cassettes.

• The maximum label length is 200mm (7.8") for DECO MODE.

• When [Auto] is selected for "Label Length", the label will automatically adjust to the correct size for printing the text one time.

• Press to return to the [Auto] setting for "Label Length" mode.

Printing

- To prevent damage to the tape, do not touch the cutter lever while the message "Print" or "Feed" is displayed.
- To cut off the label, push in the tape cutter lever on the upper-right corner of the machine.
- Peel the printed label from backing and apply the label.

Using Print Options

[Copies]

You can print up to 9 copies of each label.

- To print more than 1 copy of a label with minimum margin, set the margin to [Narrow] and select [Copies] for [Print Options] function.



You can also select the number of copies by entering with Number keys.

[Numbering]

You can print many copies of the same text while increasing a selected number by 1 after each label is printed.

Example: To print copies of a label containing a serial number (0123, 0124 and 0125)



Select the highest number you wish to be printed when setting the number.

[Mirror]

Use clear tape in [Mirror], so the labels can be read correctly from the opposite side when attached on glass, windows or other transparent surfaces.



HTIM&L

Use clear tape in [Mirror], so the labels can be read correctly from the opposite side when attached on glass, windows or other transparent surfaces.

Resetting the P-touch

You can reset the P-touch labeler when you want to initialize the settings, or in the event the P-touch labeler is not working properly.

- Turn off the P-touch labeler and then while holding down and, press to turn the P-touch back on.
- Release and. The P-touch labeler turns on with the internal memory reset.

NOTE

All text, settings and stored files are cleared.

DECO MODE

This function allows you to create unique labels by using some built-in templates. Refer to the DECO MODE format table (C) on the enclosed insertion sheet.

Example: Design 10 Bill Anderson



[Label Length] [Auto/30-200mm]

(1.2"-7.8") Text 1

Text 2

Bill Anderson

ABC Company, Inc. [Print OK?]

NOTE

• Some formats checked on [C] in the DECO format table need cooling. If the print head becomes too hot, your machine will stop printing and automatically start to cool down. The cool down time will be displayed. Once the print head is cool, printing will automatically continue.

• Do not touch the P-touch labeler while cooling.

• If you select a format that is one line (Design 1 - Design 9), only enter the text one time.

• Depending on the format you have selected, the entire contents of your text may not be printed.

• The DECO MODE templates cannot change format.

• The highlighted symbols in the table of symbols (A) on the enclosed insertion sheet are available in DECO MODE.

• To clear all text, press and, then "Clear?" appears. Press to clear. Press to cancel.

• When you access DECO MODE, your most recently printed DECO MODE text and label length will be recalled.

• Press to return to the previous step.

• To exit DECO MODE, press until the display shows the text entry screen.

• DECO MODE feature is only available when using 12mm (1/2") wide tape cassettes.

• The maximum label length is 200mm (7.8") for DECO MODE.

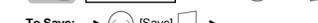
• When [Auto] is selected for "Label Length", the label will automatically adjust to the correct size for printing the text one time.

• Press to return to the [Auto] setting for "Label Length" mode.

Saving Label Files

Memory

You can save your original labels on to your machine. Up to nine labels can be saved and recalled for printing at a later date. You can also edit and overwrite the stored label.



To Save: [Save] [File]

To Print: [Print]

To Open: [Open]

Troubleshooting

Error message

Message	Cause/Remedy
Battery Weak!	The batteries are weak. Replace them with new ones.
Check Battery!	The installed batteries are running low.
Invalid!	• There is no text above the cursor when you selected [Numbering]. • Invalid character is selected for [Numbering]. • Invalid number is selected for [Tab Length] or [Label Length].
No Text!	• You tried to print a text file when there is no data stored in the memory. • is pressed when no text is entered. • [Mirror], or Text Preview when no text is entered.
Line Limit!	• You tried to enter a 3rd line by pressing
No Cassette!	You tried to print a label when there is no cassette installed.
Cutter Error	Tape cutter lever is used in the middle of printing process.

Message	Cause/Remedy
Full!	The maximum number of characters (80 characters, 50 characters for DECO MODE) have already been entered.
Text Too Long!	The text length exceeds the selected label length. Auto-Format setting length and DECO MODE setting length.
No Frame OK?	Printing on 3.5mm (9/64") tape with invalid Frame setting ON. (Selected to print with no Frame, to cancel.)
OK to Feed?	Feeding tape after printing when [Chain print] is selected. Refer to "Setting Margin".
Cooling	If the print head becomes too hot, your machine will stop printing and automatically start to cool down. The cool down time will be displayed. Once the print head is cool, printing will automatically continue. Do not touch the P-touch labeler while cooling.
Insert 12mm (1/2")	Only 12mm (1/2") tape cassette is available for DECO MODE.

What to do when...

Problem	Solution
The display stays blank after you have turned on the machine.	• Check that the batteries are correctly inserted. • If the batteries are weak, replace them. • Check that the AD-24ES adapter is correctly connected.
When the label is printed out, there is too much margin (space) on both sides of the text.	• See "Setting Margin" in this users guide and select [Half] or [Narrow] to have smaller margins for your label.
The machine does not print, or the printed characters are not formed properly.	• Check that the tape cassette has been inserted correctly. • If the tape cassette is empty, replace it. • Check that the cassette cover is properly closed.
The setting has cleared on its own.	• The batteries may be weak. Replace them. • When power is disconnected for more than three minutes, all text & formats in the display will be lost. Language and Unit settings will also be cleared.
A blank horizontal line appears through the printed label.	• There may be some dust on the print head. Remove the tape cassette and use a dry cotton swab to gently wipe the print head with an up-and-down motion.

Problem	Solution
The machine has "locked up" (i.e., nothing happens when a key is pressed, even though the machine is on.)	• Refer to "Resetting the P-touch".
The power turns off when you try to print.	• The batteries may be weak. Replace them. • Check that the batteries are correctly inserted.
The tape does not feed properly or the tape gets stuck inside the machine.	• Check that the end of the tape feeds under the tape guides. • The cutter lever is used while printing. Do not touch the cutter lever during printing.
All text and format settings need to be cleared to create a new label.	• Press + and select [Text&Format].
To change language setting.	• Refer to "Initial Settings".

Design	[A]	[B]	Label image	[C]
Size	Size	Large*1	J.SMITH	1
		Medium	J.SMITH	
		Small	J.SMITH	
Width	Width	Normal*1	J.SMITH	2
		x 2	J.SMITH	
		x 1/2	J.SMITH	
Style	Style	Normal*1	J.SMITH	3
		Bold	J.SMITH	
		Outline	J.SMITH	
		Shadow	J.SMITH	
		Italic	J.SMITH	
		Italic Bold	J.SMITH	
		Italic Outl (Italic Outline)	J.SMITH	
		Italic Shadow	J.SMITH	
		Vertical	フ・ウ・Σ・ト・E	
		Underline/Frame*2	Underline/Frame	
Underline	ABC			
Round	ABC			
Leaf	ABC			
Tile	ABC			
Star	ABC			
Heart	ABC			
Square	ABC			
Clip	ABC			
Tab	Tab			• The cursor should be positioned where you set to tab. • You can also set a tab by using the Tab key on the keyboard.
Tab length	Tab Length	Auto*1/0-100mm (0.0"-4.0")*3	The tab is set with the specified length.	6