

## Zebra Printer ZD500 Load Ribbon

Complete these steps to load ribbon in the Zebra ZD500 printer.

**Step 1** - Prepare the ribbon by removing its wrapping and pulling its adhesive strip free.



**Step 2** - With the printer open, place a new ribbon roll on printer's lower ribbon supply spindles. Rotate the roll until the notches align and lock into the left side of the supply hub.







**Step 3** - Place an empty ribbon core on printer's take-up spindles. Rotate the ribbon core until the notches align and lock into the left side of the take-up hub. You can find your first ribbon take-up core in the packing box. Subsequently, use the empty supply core to take up the next roll of ribbon.



**Step 4** - Pull the transfer ribbon's leader off the roll and attach it with the adhesive strip on the leader to the empty ribbon core on the take-up spindle. Center the ribbon on the ribbon core.







**Step 5** - Rotate the thumb wheel on the left side of the supply spindle towards the rear of the printer until the ribbon is pulled tight across the printhead.



**Step 6** - Verify that the media is loaded and ready to print and then close the printer cover.

**Step 7** - Press the Feed button to have the printer feed a minimum of 10 cm (4 inches) of media to remove slack and ribbon wrinkle, and to align the ribbon on the spindles.

**Step 8** - Change the print mode setting from direct thermal printing to thermal transfer to set the printer's temperature profiles for thermal transfer media.

This can be done with the printer driver, application software, or printer programming commands.

When controlling printer operations with ZPL programming, refer to the Media Type (^MT) ZPL II command (follow the instructions in the ZPL Programming Guide).

**Step 9** - To verify the mode change from direct thermal printing to thermal transfer printing, use the Test Printing with Configuration Report Printouts to print a configuration label. The 'PRINT METHOD' should read 'THERMAL-TRANS' on the printer configuration status label.





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Step 10 - Your printer is now ready to print.

