



TERMINOLOGY

Term	Description	Other industry names
Abrasion resistance	Describes how the ribbon will perform when under friction. This is a key consideration for customers using ribbons, as they do not want their image to rub off.	Smudge resistance, mechanical resistance
	Typically the cheaper the ribbon, the more prone it is to rubbing off the label under friction.	
Chemical resistance	Describes how the ribbon will perform when under chemical exposure. This is a key consideration for customers where their label application will involve chemical or cleaning agents as this can make the print deteriorate.	
Flat head	Describes the print head type where the heating element is in the centre of the print head and the print head angle is flat. This is the print method found in competitor machines. Flat head print heads are positioned flat in the printer. The result is the print area is in contact with the heating element for a longer period of time as it travels.	FH, cold peeling, flat edge printing
	Benefits of using flat head include: Darker prints Less inclined to smudge out of the device Printer is usually cheaper	
Ink In	Ribbons come in two winding types.	CSI, inside wound
	Ink in describes the ribbon winding where the ink is on the inside of the roll.	
Ink Out	Ribbons come in two winding types.	CSI, outside wound
	Ink out describes the ribbon winding where the ink is on the outside of the roll. This is the standard for Toshiba.	
Near Edge	Describes the print head type where the heating element is 'near the edge' of the print head and is unique to Toshiba.	NE, hot peeling, near edge printing, corner edge printing
	Near edge print heads are angled so the print area comes in to contact at the latest point for printing.	
	Benefits of using near edge include: High speed printing Better fine printing Longer ribbon capacity	





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Resin	The most durable ribbon designed only for synthetic labels. This ribbon chemically bonds to the label and so is good for use with chemicals or extreme temperatures.	Pure resin
Ribbon	The roll of ink used for thermal transfer printing.	Thermal ribbon, ink, ink roll, TTR
Ribbon Save	A unique feature to some of Toshibas thermal printers where the printer only uses a set amount of ribbon (rather than wasting large portions)	
Wax	The cheapest type of ribbon available, used for a small portion of the market (approx. 5%) suitable for paper labels only.	Soft wax, hard wax
Wax Resin	The most common ribbon used, suitable for paper labels and some synthetics.	Blend ribbon