

Milestone #3 – U.P.C. Assignments

[Assigning U.P.C.s to bunches and bouquets]

COMPLETE BY: September 2009

What is a U.P.C.?

The U.P.C. (or Universal Product Code) is a 12-digit number based upon GS1 standard protocols that is used to identify items. For the Floral GTIN Initiative, the U.P.C. will be used to identify bunches and bouquets.

NOTE: The formal name for the U.P.C. in the GS1 world is a GTIN-12.

What is an EAN?

The EAN is a 13-digit number used outside of the United States that serves the exact same purpose as the U.P.C. They have the same three major components shown below.

NOTE: The formal name for the EAN in the GS1 world is a GTIN-13.

What are the components that make up a U.P.C.?

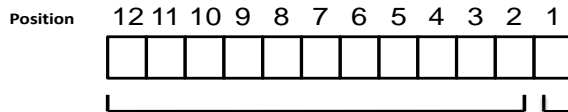
The U.P.C. (and consequently the EAN-13) has 3 major components:

Company Prefix = see Milestone #1. Remember, the length of the Company Prefix could vary from 6 to 9 digits.

Reference # = the number assigned by the owner of the Company Prefix that identifies the bunches or bouquets being numbered. This number can be whatever the owner of the Company Prefix wishes it to be, as long as this reference number is unique within their own operation. NOTE the length of this reference # will vary depending on the size of your Company Prefix above.

Check Digit = a single digit that is derived from an algorithm. This digit serves as a “checks and balances” to ensure that the preceding digits were not incorrectly entered.

U.P.C. Diagram



Position 2 - 12 = Combination of Company Prefix and Item #
Company Prefix assigned by GS1
Item # assigned by owner of Company Prefix

Position 1 = Check Digit
Algorithm to serve as a "checks and balances" to ensure
preceding digits are accurate

1 2 D I G I T S L O N G

Is the Company Prefix used in the U.P.C. the same as the Company Prefix used in the GTIN?

YES. Once you have your GS1-issued Company Prefix, you can use this with any of the numbers managed by GS1 (GTIN, UPC, EAN, SSCC, GLN, etc.).

Who needs to assign U.P.C.s to their bunches and bouquets?

- Brand owners of the bunch or bouquet.
- Growers who wish to maintain their own brand.
- Buyers requiring private labeled product.

When do companies have to assign U.P.C.s to their bunches and bouquet configurations?

Companies who need to assign U.P.C.s to their bunches and bouquets must do so by September of 2009.

How do I assign U.P.C.s to my bunches or bouquets?

See the Floral U.P.C. Assignment Strategy link on the front page directly below Milestone #3. Note that the Floral U.P.C. Assignment Strategy (which is similar to the Floral GTIN Assignment Strategy used for the GTIN) is meant to act as a guide that, if used, will provide relative simplicity and consistency on the number of U.P.C.s the floral supply chain will have to manage.

How do I calculate the Check Digit?

Log onto www.gs1.org and type into their website's search engine "Check Digit". Follow the link to the Check Digit Calculator. Once on the Check Digit Calculator page, click on GTIN Check Digit Calculator. Move to the row entitled GTIN-12 or GTIN-13. You can now enter the first 11 or 12 digits of the GTIN-field, then you click CALCULATE and it will give you your check digit for that EAN or U.P.C. number. If you have more than just a few numbers, scroll down underneath the Check Digit Calculator and it will show you the calculation used for each Check Digit so that you can automate the calculation of this Check Digit..