

Faculty Guide for Creating QR Codes

Use this guide to:

- Explain what a QR (Quick-Response) code is
- Describe what you can use a QR code for
- Create a QR code for non-UCSF web links. For UCSF web links, see [this guide](#).

What a QR code is:

- Invented in 1994 in Japan, a [QR code](#) is a square-shaped, two-dimensional matrix barcode image that contains embedded data that can be read and processed by QR-capable devices
- Although QR codes are used for various purposes, this faculty guide only covers QR codes containing an embedded web link (URL)
- Most mobile devices now have cameras and software that can read a QR code and open its URL in the device's web browser. Users can also install QR software on their device, if needed.

What you can use a QR code for:

- Faculty can add QR codes to slides, documents, handouts, posters, and Web sites
- Learners can quickly and accurately open a URL by scanning a QR code on their mobile device, instead of typing in a URL into their device's web browser
- However, because some learners have a laptop or computer instead of a mobile device, consider also providing the clickable link and/or full URL along with the QR code, as demonstrated below

[Click here](#) or scan QR



URL: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QR_code

Create a QR code:

1. Follow the steps below to create **static** QR codes that are free and don't ever expire

Note: There are many sites you can use to create free **static** QR codes. Make sure to read the fine print though, and don't pay to create QR codes, unless you have compelling reasons to.

2. Go to <https://www.qr-code-generator.com/>

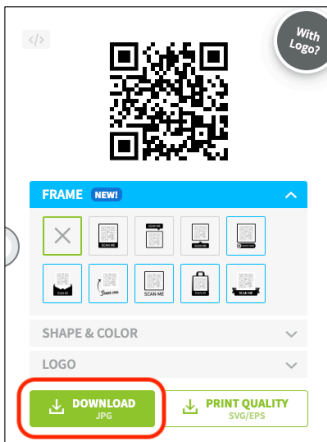
Suggestions:

- a. Do not sign up or login to create free **static** QR codes—just follow the steps below
- b. Do not sign up for the site’s paid Pro plan or start the free 14-day Pro trial because the **dynamic** Pro QR codes you create, which are editable and trackable, will stop working once you stop paying for the Pro plan
- c. The free **static** QR codes are not editable or trackable, but most faculty don’t need those features

3. Type or copy-paste a URL you want to create a QR code for into the middle of the text box



4. In the box on the right, click **Download** to save the QR code to your computer—it takes a few seconds



5. Insert the QR code into your slide or document, and re-size or re-position it as needed, just like any other image