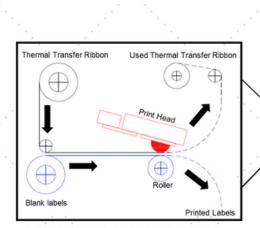
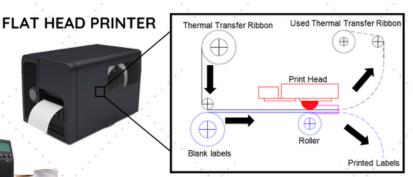
# Flat Head vs. Near-Edge Printer Comparison







Internal Schematic (varies by printer model)

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### Flat Head Printers

Flat head thermal transfer printers feature a fixed, horizontal print head & heat element. As the transfer ribbon and the substrate simultaneously pass through the heating element, ink from the ribbon is transferred to the substrate. Upon ink transfer, both the ribbon and substrate pass through a set distance together while the ink dries before being separated.

### **Advantages**

- 1. Longer lasting print heads
- 2. Less expensive compared to near edge
- Suitable for common applications such as shipping labels

#### **Features**

- Supports wax, wax/resin, and resin ribbons
- Supports print speeds in excess of 10 IPS\*
- Requires less maintenance

### **Near Edge Printers**

Near edge, or "corner edge" printers feature an angled floating print head. The heat element for these printers can be found at the edge of the print head. This allows for higher print speeds & rapid ink transfer as the substrate and ribbon meet for only an instant. Unlike flat head printers, near edge printers require specialized ribbons in order to ensure this rapid ink transfer.

### **Advantages**

- 1. Higher print speeds
- 2. Sharper images
- 3. Floating head adjusts to thickness of the substrate
- 4. Printer can be miniaturized

#### **Features**

- Supports wax/ resin and resin ribbons
- Supports print speeds of up to approx. 40 IPS\*
- Medium resolution: 200-300
  DPI
- Helps to eliminate waste

## Ricoh Product Compatibility

### Flat Head Printers

- B125CS
- B110A
- B110C
- B110CR
- B110CU
- <u>B120HS</u>
- B120EC
- D110A
- D110C

#### **Near Edge Printers**

- D110A
- B120EC



