Print Job Cost Estimator

How-to guide: what the workbook does, how to use it and what every number means. mfgcalcs.com

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Estimate a label print job from stock and ink per MSI, press speed and spoilage, makeready, plates and die, and price five quantities per 1,000 labels.

For: Label and flexo estimators, converter sales and plant managers, and buyers checking a label printing quote.

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Quick start

1. On Setup, type your company name, currency, overhead, margin and price step, then your label stocks (price per MSI) and presses (rate per hour with crew).
2. On Job Estimate, choose the stock and enter the web width, repeat, lanes across, labels around and the ink cost per MSI.
3. Choose the press and enter the running speed, good-copy yield, makeready hours and makeready footage.
4. Enter the plates, imaging cost, share charged, proofing, the cutting die and finishing, then type five quantities.
5. Read cost and price per 1,000 labels for each quantity; on the Dashboard, pick a quantity to see the tiles, charts and cost build-up.

What is in the workbook

Start Here	Read this first: what the workbook does and how to use it.
Setup	Your company, currency, costing defaults, label stocks and press rates.
Job Estimate	The job, label layout, press and makeready, plates, die and finishing, and cost and price for five quantities.
Dashboard	Price, cost and margin per 1,000 labels at the quantity you pick, and where the cost goes.
Method	How every number is calculated, with assumptions, limits and sources.
Verify	Self-check: the workbook's formulas recomputed on fixed inputs against an independent reference.
About MFG Calcs	Everything MFG Calcs offers, free: calculators, templates, tariff tools, data and the Calkee AI helper.

What each number means

Quantity	How it is calculated	Units
Labels per frame and stock per frame	Lanes x labels around; web width x repeat / 1,000.	labels, MSI

Quantity	How it is calculated	Units
Paper and ink per frame	Stock per frame x (stock price + ink, coating and varnish per MSI).	currency
Frames per running hour	Running speed x 720 / repeat (60 minutes x 12 inches per foot); good frames = x good-copy yield; good labels = x labels per frame.	rames/h, labels/h
Makeready	Time cost = makeready hours x press rate; waste cost = makeready feet x 12 x web width / 1,000 x stock and ink per MSI.	currency
Plate cost charged to the run	Plates x cost to image one plate x share charged + proofing; cost per plate = that / plates.	currency
Good frames and frames run	CEILING(quantity / labels per frame); frames run = good frames / good-copy yield.	frames
Press hours	Frames run / frames per running hour + makeready hours.	h
Cost lines per 1,000 labels	Frames run x paper and ink per frame; running hours x press rate; makeready time and waste; plate cost charged; die; each / quantity x 1,000; finishing and packing as entered; overhead = (press running time + makeready time) x overhead %.	currency/1,000
Price per 1,000	CEILING(cost per 1,000 / (1 - target margin), price step); margin achieved = (price - cost) / price.	currency/1,000
Stock, ink, makeready and plates	Frames run x paper and ink per frame + makeready time and waste + plate cost charged, for the job.	currency
Stock to order	(Frames run x repeat / 12 + makeready feet) x 12 x web width / 1,000.	MSI

Assumptions, limitations, sources and the self-check (the Verify sheet, which recomputes the workbook's formulas on fixed test inputs) are in the workbook. The last page shows the Dashboard with the example data for Kestrel Point Labels, a fictional business.

Free from MFG Calcs - keep this credit when you share it.

Engineering estimates for planning and improvement work. Verify the results against your own process, data and standards before you rely on them.

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Price, cost and margin per 1,000 labels at the quantity you pick, and where the cost goes.

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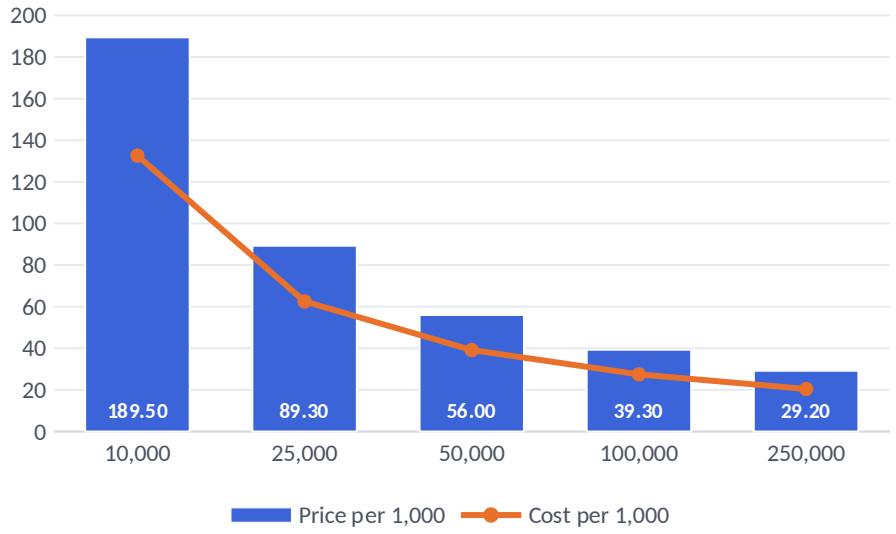
Quantity shown 50,000

Showing 50,000 labels of LBL-2207-W on White BOPP film, permanent, 9 per frame, 5 plates. Pick another quantity in the yellow cell.

PRICE PER 1,000 (USD)	COST PER 1,000 (USD)	MARGIN ACHIEVED	GOOD LABELS PER RUNNING HOUR
56.00	**39.14**	**30.1%**	**111,927**
Order value 2,800.00 USD	All lines, before margin	Target 30.0%	225 ft/min, 95.0% good
		On target	

Price and cost per 1,000 by quantity



Where the cost per 1,000 goes

