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Sticker printing using a Brother thermal label printer on Mac or Windows computers

In 2020 – 2022 stickers alerted many people to the tyranny that was unfolding around them, and put them in touch with online groups to help them meet up and campaign together. At protests in London, police vehicles were covered in stickers! The White Rose campaign was especially successful.

Several Telegram groups have 'No to digital ID' sticker designs in '.lbr' and other formats for you to download and print. The White Rose and Crosshair campaigns are on Telegram at t.me/JoinTheWhiteRose and t.me/TheCrosshairCollection

1. **Buy a Brother QL-series thermal label printer – these print '.lbr' format stickers**

Choose one that takes **62 mm-wide continuous paper label rolls** and has **auto-cut**. The **QL-800** is high specification (£126 new, Jan 2025 price) but others work fine too. Mine is a **QL-570** (now discontinued, but the app still works) which cost £30 second-hand on eBay. **QL-600** and **QL-700** are also good. Models with a **W** at the end of the number are wireless printing ones.



Brother QL-800 printer



The older QL-570 model



DK-22205 Paper label rolls

2. **Buy some DK-22205 paper label rolls**

These are **continuous labels, 62 mm wide**. You can bulk buy generic, unbranded rolls from many eBay sellers. These are 4 or 5 times cheaper than the Brother branded ones but similar quality. Fitting the rolls is a little fiddly at first but you'll soon get the hang of it. You don't need any ink; these are thermal printers.

3. **Download 'P-Touch Editor', the free software needed for printing**

Go to support.brother.com and enter your printer's model number into the 'Product Search'. Follow the instructions until you see the option to download **P-Touch Editor** (either Mac or Windows). Download and install it. It's quite an easy app to use. The site also has product manuals (in case you bought a used printer without a manual).

4. **Print out the stickers you want**

Use the program to open any '.lbr' files that you have on your computer. It displays these ready to print or edit. '.lbr' files (label files) won't open without this software installed. Designs can be duplicated, edited and adapted, much as in a word processor such as 'Word'. Images ('.png' or '.jpeg' files, etc) and text can be inserted into the label designs.

5. **Happy stickering!**

Remember to be polite and choose locations carefully. Don't sticker private vehicles or homes, and don't cover up vital info like bus/tram/train times, opening hours or posting box collection times. Post photos in our Telegram channel of the stickers 'in situ' at different locations!