RFD8500
Quick Start Guide

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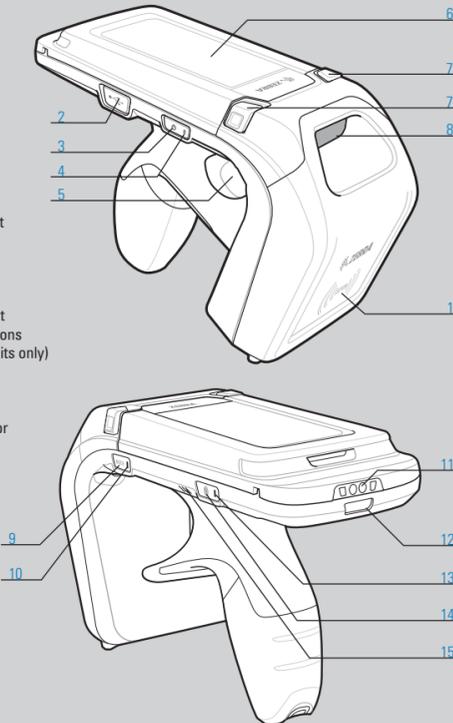
Introduction
The RFD8500 reader provides Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), with optional barcode scanning functionality. The unit can be used stand alone, or paired with a Bluetooth® wireless technology enabled host device (such as a mobile computer and/or smartphone).

Using the RFD8500
To use the RFD8500 for the first time with a mobile computer, Android or iOS device:
- Install the battery.
- Charge the RFD8500.
- Power on the RFD8500.
- Pair the RFD8500 over Bluetooth with a mobile device (the RFD8500 can also be used with a USB connection).
- Install the Demo Application, or the partner application (Android or iOS).
- Set the region and power level (using the Demo Application, or the partner application).

Removing the Battery Cover
1. Depress both battery cover release buttons.
2. Slide back and remove battery cover.
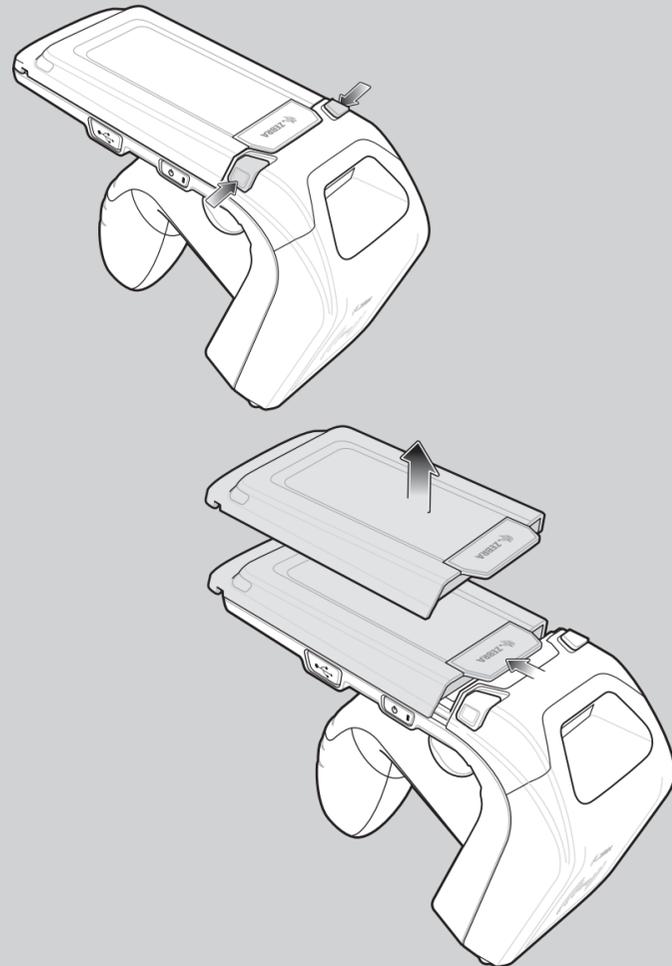
Inserting the Battery
1. Align the three tabs on the bottom of the battery with the three slots in the battery compartment.
2. Press battery towards three battery slots then press down until it locks into place.
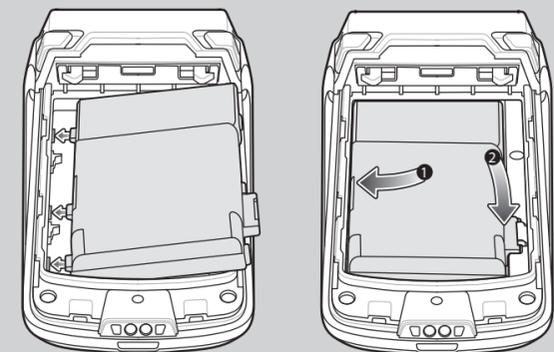
Remove the Battery
Press in and remove battery as shown.
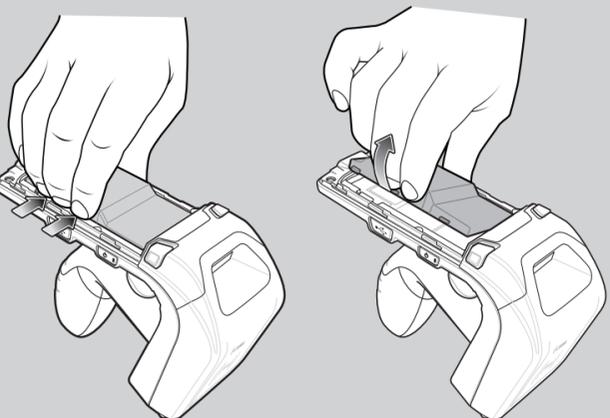
Inserting the Mobile Computer into the RFD8500
Remove the RFD8500 battery cover. Remove the plastic tip from the cover. Attach the mobile computer to its case accessory. Attach the mobile computer case to the RFD8500 battery cover. Slide the battery cover onto the RFD8500 until it locks in place. The battery cover buttons secure the mobile computer to the RFD8500.
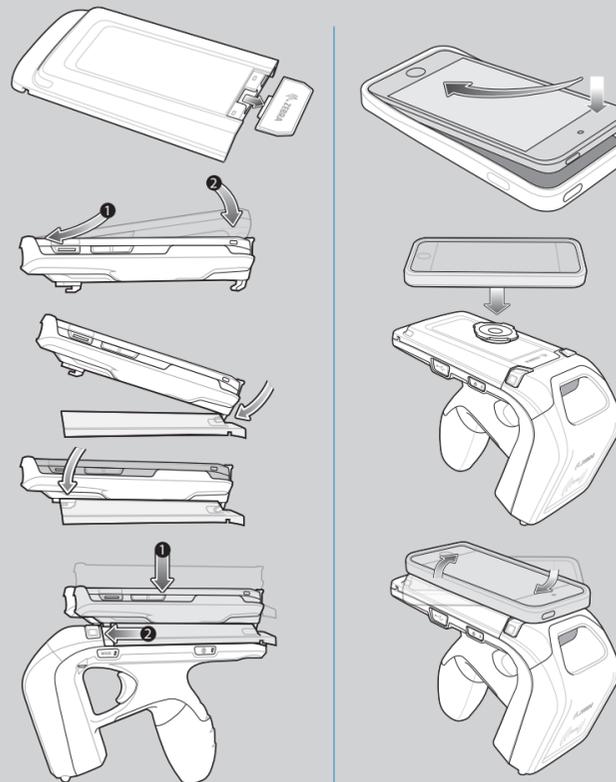
Removing the Mobile Computer from the RFD8500
To remove the mobile computer, press the battery cover release buttons, and pull the mobile computer back and up.

Charging
Before using the RFD8500 for the first time, charge the battery until the LED Power/Charging Indicator turns solid green. To charge the RFD8500, use a Zebra approved charging cradle or charging cup. Cradles available with the RFD8500 are, a Single-slot RFD8500 cradle, a Three-slot RFD8500 or a dual-spare battery charger cradle, a Four-slot RFD8500 cradle, and a Four-slot cradle that charges two RFD8500 devices and two TC5x devices.

⚠ The Micro USB port on the RFD8500 is not intended for charging. The Micro USB port is for data transfer and firmware upgrading only. For daily charging, use the cable cup or cradle.

One-Slot Charge Only Cradle   **Three-Slot Charge Only Cradle**   **Four-Slot Charge Only Cradle**
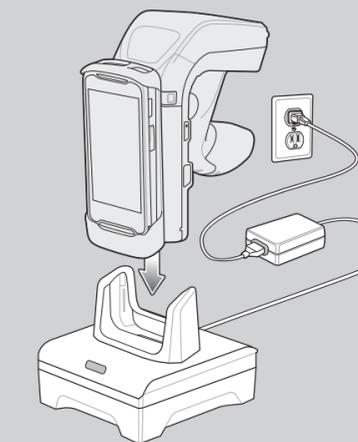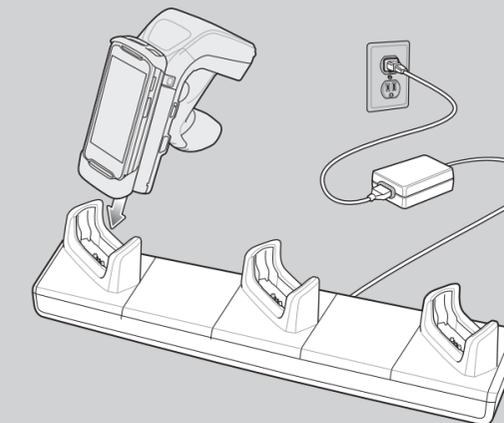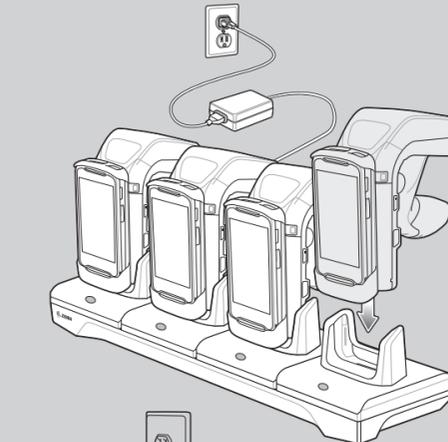
AC Charge Cable
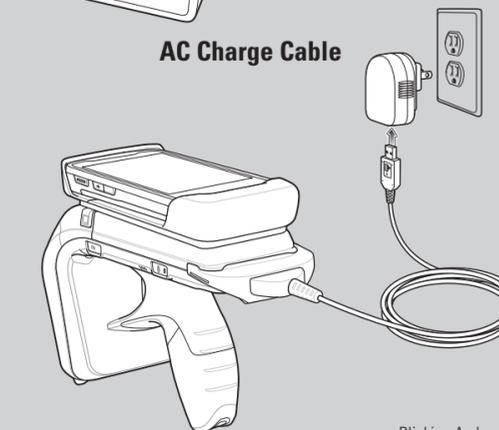
Data Transfer and Firmware or Software Updates
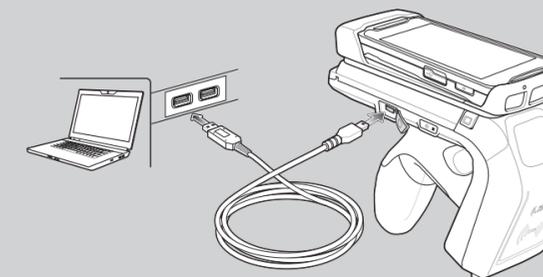
Charge LED Indicator
Blinking Amber = Normal Charge | Solid Green = Full Charge

More Information About the RFD8500

For more information about the RFD8500, visit the Zebra website at:
http://www.zebra.com/RFD8500.

For the latest version of this guide, localized translations, and related product guides, visit the Zebra website at: http://www.zebra.com/support.

Service

If you have a problem running your equipment, contact your facility's Technical or Systems Support. If there is a problem with the equipment, they will contact Zebra support at: http://www.zebra.com/support.

Warranty

For the complete Zebra hardware product warranty statement, go to:
http://www.zebra.com/warranty.

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Pairing with an Android Device

To pair with a TC5X or any compatible Android device:
1. Power on the device.
2. Touch the Settings icon.
3. Turn Bluetooth on.
4. Touch Search for Devices to display available discoverable devices.
5. Turn the RFD8500 on and ensure Bluetooth is enabled. If not, press the Bluetooth button on the RFD8500 for one second to make it discoverable. When discoverable, the Bluetooth LED slowly flashes blue.
6. Touch the RFD8500 in the list of available discoverable devices, and **press the RFD8500 trigger to pair when the Bluetooth LED starts flashing fast**.
7. Exit the Device Settings screen, and run the Zebra 123RFID Mobile Application.
8. From the 123RFID Mobile Application, select Settings > Readers List, and confirm the RFD8500 serial number with which you paired is displayed. Select it in the list of Available Readers to connect the RFD8500 to the device.

Pairing with an iOS Device

To pair with an iOS device, such as an iPhone or iPod Touch:
1. Power on the iOS device.
2. Touch the Settings icon.
3. Touch Bluetooth to display the Bluetooth Settings screen, and ensure it is on.
4. Turn the RFD8500 on and ensure Bluetooth is enabled. If not, press the Bluetooth button on the RFD8500 for one second to make it discoverable. When discoverable, the Bluetooth LED slowly flashes blue.
5. Touch the RFD8500 in the list of available discoverable devices, and **press the RFD8500 trigger to pair when the Bluetooth LED starts flashing fast**.
6. Exit the OS Device Settings screen and run the RFID Demo Application.
7. From the Demo Application, select Settings > Readers List and confirm the RFD8500 serial number with which you paired is displayed. Select it in the list of Available Readers to connect the RFD8500 to the iOS device.

Using the Pairing/Locate Device Barcode

The Pairing/Locate Device barcode appears on the RFD8500 under the antenna compartment. When you pair several RFD8500 devices with your mobile device via Bluetooth, use the serial number represented by the Locate Device barcode to identify a specific paired RFD8500. **The barcode can also be used for pairing.** Refer to the RFD8500 RFID Developer Guide for details.

Transferring Data Via USB

By default, the RFD8500 is not configured to transfer data via the USB port. Use the Cable connection page in 123Scan to configure either USB CDC or USB HID to do this. Note that USB CDC mode requires the Zebra CDC driver for Windows which can be obtained from the Barcode Scanner SDK Driver Utilities site. For detailed information about transferring data, refer to the RFD8500 User Guide, p/n MN002065AXX.

Condition	Power LED	Beeper
Power State Indicator (Power Button)		
Low battery (20%)	Solid amber	No beep
Lower battery (10%)	Solid red	Short beeps - repeated
Suspend	Solid red, then turns off	High/medium/low
Charging	Blinking amber	Short beep when charger is connected
Charged	Solid green	One beep
Charging error	Fast blink red	Three beeps
Power on	Green if battery charge > 20%	Low/medium/high beeps
	Amber if battery charge between 10% - 20%	
	Red if battery charge < 10%	
Mode Indicator (Mode Button)		
RFID mode	Off	Short high button confirmation beep
Barcode mode	Solid green	Short high button confirmation beep
Decode/RFID Read Indicator		
Good decode	Solid green	Short low beep
Transmit error	Solid amber for 2 seconds	No beep for RFID/4 beeps for scanner read
Good RFID read	Solid green (for each read)	Short medium beep
RFID error	Amber	No beep
Other error message	Solid red	No beep
BT Indicator (BT Button)		
BT off	Off	No beep
BT on/not connected	Slow flash	No beep
BT discoverable	Medium flash	No beep
BT on/pairing in process	Fast flash	No beep
BT application connected	Solid blue	Short low/high beeps
BT out of range	Slow flash	Short high/low beeps

Scanning with the RFD8500 (Imager Units Only)

To scan barcodes:
1. Set the RFD8500 to barcode mode.
2. Aim the device at the barcode.
3. Press the trigger on the handle. The scan/decode LED lights, and a beep sounds to indicate a successful decode.
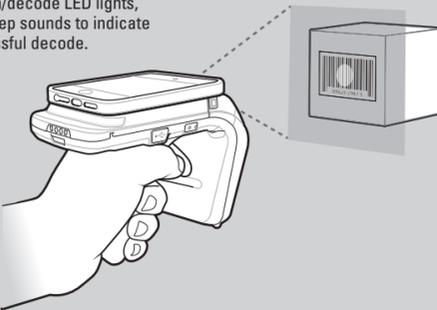
Optimum Scanning Positions
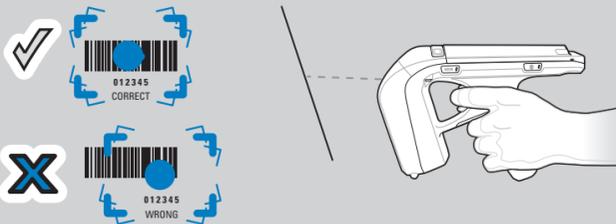
Reading RFID Tags
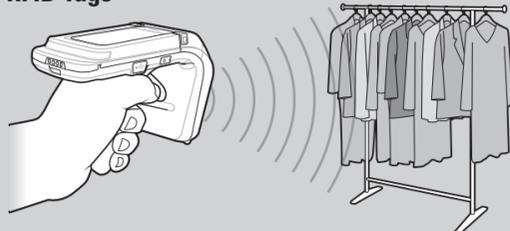
Optimum Upright Body Posture

Optimum Body Posture for Low Scanning

AVOID BENDING
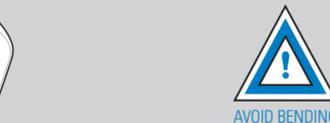
Optimum Body Posture for High Scanning

Use a ladder

Taking breaks and task rotation recommended

Alternate left and right hand

AVOID REACHING

AVOID EXTREME WRIST ANGLES