

The following benchmark analyses the differences between the types of media take-up systems available on the market.

MEDIA TAKE-UP single motor:

- Low cost made in China
- One motor controls the winding and the tension: inconsistent tension prevents straight take-up and the media ends up being rolled up incorrectly
- Non adjustable torque system – the motor keeps pulling the media even when the printer is not printing
- No unattended operation
- Forward only (not suitable for print and cut)
- Very limited motor lifespan as Chinese manufactured motors work continuously
- Suitable for rolls up to 15kg of paper, vinyl, transfer paper
- Chinese low cost suppliers (€160)



MEDIA TAKE-UP single adjustable motor:

- Entry level
- One motor controls the winding and the tension: inconsistent tension prevents straight take up and the media ends up being rolled up incorrectly
- Adjustable torque system – the motor stops pulling the media at a certain adjustable tension level i.e. when the printer is idle
- Short periods of unattended operation only
- Forward only (not suitable for print and cut)
- Increased motor life-span
- Suitable for rolls up to 30kg of paper, vinyl, transfer paper
- Suppliers: Mutoh ZMY-14810 54" (€950), Mutoh ZMY1213-TUP20 54" (€975)



MEDIA TAKE-UP dual motor torque system:

- Entry-level for professional use
- Two synchronised motors control winding and tension to ensure straight take-up from the printed media
- Adjustable torque system – the motor stops pulling the media at a certain adjustable tension level i.e. when the printer is idle
- Operates automatically and unattended for several hours, night included
- Forward only (not suitable for print and cut)
- Heavy-duty motor with a long lifespan
- Suitable for rolls up to 35kg of paper, vinyl, transfer paper
- Suppliers: DIGIPRINT SUPPLIES (€198)



MEDIA TAKE-UP with infrared sensor:

- Mid-level for professional use
- Single motor control winding only
- Infrared sensors ensure consistent tension and stop the motor when the printer is idle
- Heavy-duty motors with a long lifespan
- Forward only (not suitable for print and cut)
- Suitable for rolls up to 30kg of paper, vinyl, transfer paper
- Suppliers: Graphic One GO Automatic Media Take-Up System (€700)



MEDIA TAKE-UP with tension bar:

- High-end for professional use
- Dual synchronised motors control winding only to ensure straight take-up from the printed media
- Printer software controls the take-up system and synchronises the winding together with printing
- Front tension bar ensures consistent tension and the motor stops when the printer is idle
- Heavy-duty motors with a long lifespan
- Forward and backward option (allows for print and cut)
- Suitable for rolls up to 50kg of paper, vinyl, transfer paper
- Suppliers: Roland TU2 (€2,020), Roland TU3 (€2,500)



MEDIA TAKE-UP with feeding system:

- High-end for professional use
- Four synchronised motors control feeding, winding and ensure straight feeding and take-up from printed media
- The feeding system ensures synchronisation with the printer and stops the motors when the printer is idle
- Forward and reverse (allows for print and cut)
- Heavy-duty motors with a long lifespan
- Suitable for rolls up to 100kg of paper, vinyl, transfer paper, textile, banner
- Suppliers: Mutoh VJ16-TUP80 (€4,500) - Mutoh ZMY-14600 (€4,990)





Key specifications	Chinese Take up	DIGIPRINT Take-up	Mutoh ZMY- 14810	Mutoh VJ1213	Mutoh ZMY- 14800	Mutoh VJ1619	Graphic One GO	Roland TU2	Roland TU3	Mutoh VJ16- TUP30	Mutoh VJ16- TUP80	Mutoh ZMY- 14600
Take up type	Single motor	Dual torque motor	Single torque	Single torque	Single torque	Single torque	Single torque	Dual torque motor	Dual torque motor	Single torque	Dual torque motor	Dual torque motor
Adjustable torque	N	y	y	y	y	y	y	N	N	N	N	N
Infrared sensor	N	N	N	N	N	N	y	N	N	N	N	N
Front Tension bar	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	y	y	y	y	y
Rear Tension bar	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	y	y
Printer S/W driven	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	y	y	N	N	N
Max Roll Diameter	150 mm	150 mm	130mm	150 mm	130mm	150 mm	130mm	150mm	210mm	130mm	300mm	300mm
Max media width	64"	64"	54"	54"	64"	72"	54"	74"	64"	64"	64"	64"
Roll max weight	25kg	35kg	30kg	30kg	30kg	30kg	30kg	30kg	50kg	30kg	80kg	100kg
Motor type	Single	Dual	Single	Single	Single	Single	Single	Dual	Dual	Single	Dual	Dual
2" & 3" core	No adapter	No adapter	Adapter	Adapter	Adapter	Adapter	Adapter	No adapter	No adapter	Adapter	No adapter	No adapter
Power consumpt.	24 Watts	10 Watts	10 Watts	10 Watts	10 Watts	10 Watts	10 Watts	20 Watts	60 Watts	10 Watts	10 Watts	10 Watts
Accoustic Noise	70 Db	40 -45 Db	70 Db	70 Db	70 Db	70 Db	70 Db	64Db	64Db	70 Db	70Db	70 Db
Installation	Easy	Easy	Easy	Easy	Easy	Easy	Easy	Difficult	Difficult	Difficult	Difficult	Difficult
Winding stability	poor: 1 bar	good: 2 bars	average: 1 bar	average: 1 bar	average: 1 bar	average: 1 bar	average: 1 bar	good: 2 bars	good: 2 bars	average: 1 bar	good: 2 bars	good: 2 bars
Price	€160	€198	€950	€975	€950	€995	€700	€1,960	€2,500	€1,995	€4,500	€4,990