

KITCHEN BANDITS

DAY DOT KEY

Sheet 01 / 07
kitchenbandits.com/tools/labelling-kit · v2026-09

DATE MARKING · ONE COLOR PER DAY

THE COLOR SAYS WHICH DAY. THE DATE SAYS WHICH WEEK.

Seven band colors cover the week. Purple stays off the rota and marks allergen work. Match the color to the day the item was made, then write the date beside it.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
BLUE 299C	YELLOW 143C	RED 485C	BROWN 732C	GREEN 7738C	WHITE 9064C	BLACK BLACK 6C

ALLERGEN

Purple is never a day. It marks allergen-safe or allergen-marked items, so the nut-free pesto and the sesame dressing both stand out on a busy shelf. Write the item and the allergen on the band.

Purple · 2077C · never used for a weekday

THE RULE

WRITE THE DATE, NOT JUST THE DAY.

A blue band on its own could be this Monday or last Monday. Day plus date settles it in one look. Month, day, then the item.

TUE 09/08 · RANCH

ON THE BAND DAY _____ DATE _____ ITEM _____
USE BY _____

HOW THE CREW READS IT

- 01 Color first.** Today is Tuesday, so yellow was made today and blue is from Monday. Every color has a place on the shelf, so a wrong one stands out before anyone reads a word.
- 02 Then the date.** Same color, older date: it is from last week. It goes.
- 03 Use-by comes from the shelf-life chart.** Day made is day 1. Seven days is the ceiling for ready-to-eat TCS food held at 41°F (5°C) or below. Many houses run 3 to 4 days on cooked proteins.
- 04 Purple means allergen.** No purple band ever carries a day. It carries the item and the allergen it is free of, or the one it contains.
- 05 Unmarked means unknown.** Unknown goes in the bin, not on the line.
- 06 Wipe and rewrite.** At the end of the item's life, isopropyl alcohol takes the marker off. Light ghosting is normal. Write the next one.