

Pick Methodology Decision Tree

How to choose between single, batch, and wave picking based on your order profile. The right methodology can increase throughput 2-4x without adding headcount.

Single Order Picking

Best for: Low volume (under 50 orders/day), high-value items, or complex/custom orders.

- One picker, one order at a time. Walk the warehouse, pick all items, return to pack station.
- Simplest to implement. No batching logic needed.
- Highest accuracy but lowest throughput per hour.
- Good starting point for teams new to WMS-directed picking.

Batch Picking

Best for: 50-500 orders/day with moderate SKU overlap between orders.

- Pick multiple orders simultaneously in a single warehouse pass.
- Logentic groups orders by SKU overlap to minimize travel distance.
- Sort into individual orders at the pack station using scan verification.
- Typically 2-3x faster than single order picking.

Wave Picking

Best for: 500+ orders/day with large teams and multiple zones.

- Orders are grouped into waves based on carrier cutoff times, priority, or zone.
- Each wave is released to the floor at scheduled intervals.
- Zone pickers handle their area; orders consolidate at pack.
- Maximum throughput but requires more coordination and staging space.

RECOMMENDATION

Start with single order picking for your first week on Logentic, even if your volume supports batch picking. This lets your team learn the scan-verify workflow without the added complexity of sorting. Move to batch picking in week two once the muscle memory is there.